The Middlebury Campus

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Split council passes selectivity bill

By Noelle Campagna

The Community Council held what Dudley Winthrop '94, co-chair of the council, called "the most important meeting of the year" on Thursday, March 10 when the social house selectivity proposal barely passed 8-7-1.

The proposal, originally the Citrin/Dorf/Kroon bill, has been continuously changed by the Inter-House Council (IHC) to accommodate faculty, staff and administration opinion. The final product consisted of five distinct points: All houses must announce the number of spaces they intend to fill prior to the rush process; selection will be based on a certain criteria to be pre-approved by the Residential Life Committee; all applicants will fill out a written application and attend a formal interview by several members of the house; if the house chooses to select, it may opt to do so by random lottery or by a simple majority process in which all eligible house membership votes; and finally, written notification of selection will be delivered to all applicants by the officers of the houses. In addition, an appeals process has been devised to provide extra insurance against arbitrary discrimination.

The bill itself, having been passed by Community Council, has been passed on to President John McCardell, with a recommendation to accept the proposal. This, however, is not the only document being passed on to the president.

John Emerson, vice president for student affairs, described the reservations he had about the proposal in a letter to McCardell. Speaking on behalf of those in the minority vote, he wrote, "We believe that selectivity — no matter how limited, no matter how rigorously monitored — will make the coeducational social houses exclusive, by definition."

Although the minority conceded to the fact that selection does already occur on campus, they felt that even though "we have every right to choose our friends and associates ... we cannot expect the college to institutionalize, formalize and subsidize our selective choice of friends and associates."

In conclusion, Emerson proposed three important guidelines: if it becomes necessary to limit the size of an organization, then a random draw should be used; a social house could decide that students need to be excluded "for cause" before they become members; the entire issue of open house membership should be reviewed by Dec. 1995, when the probationary period for the new houses reaches its end. All members in the minority

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Catherine Herrick

The Community Council voted this week on the controversial selectivity bill, which passed in an 8-7-1 split.

Full faculty approves three-year program

By Ryan D'Agostino

In a special meeting called by President John McCardell last Monday, a faculty vote approved a motion to offer a new three-year bachelor of arts degree (B.A.) to students pursuing the International Major. The program will be instituted for a three-year trial period beginning in the summer of 1995, after which its quality will be reviewed by the faculty's Educational Council.

The decision came after an hour and a half of discussion focusing on the concerns of some faculty members. This meeting marked the first time the full faculty met to talk about the proposal. Three weeks ago, the faculty's Curriculum Committee announced that the program would be instituted next summer, but Professor of Mathematics Michael Olinick felt that this announcement was premature because the full faculty had not yet discussed the issue.

"I thought that the program had a large number of strong features," Olinick told his colleagues Monday, "but there were some major issues that were causing me some concern."

Olinick went on to cite the three major reasons for the measure of apprehension among some faculty at the meeting in Kirk Alumni Center. The first reason pertained to the elite nature of the program, which would only be offered to a limited number of talented and carefully-screened students. Some faculty members even called it a type of honors program.

Secondly, the three-year B.A. would require its participants to take five courses during some semesters rather than four. One faculty member said that while every other aspect of the program may be new, there have been students in the past who have taken five courses, "and it hasn't worked. They spread themselves too thin. They cheat themselves because they want to get

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SGA scrutinizes exam scheduling

By Chris Whitely

A wide divergence of student opinion was expressed in SGA's meeting last Sunday about the current exam week schedule.

Katie Briscoe '94 and Tricia Grindley '95 led an informal discussion in which they asked students for their opinions of the exam week schedule and suggestions for its improvement.

Currently Middlebury has a week-and-a-half exam period, with two or three exams scheduled on every other day. Revision is being considered due to student problems with the strictness of the system, where students are often forced to take two exams in one day, and professors can be unsympathetic to overworked students.

Three major alternatives to the current system emerged from this meeting.

The first was to shorten the exam period to one week, with two scheduled exam slots in each day. If a student had two exams in one day, he/she could take the exam on another day. SGA President Brendan O'Leary stressed that such a system allowed for an extra week of classes. This extra week would be a particular boon in the natural science division, which often has the problem of crushing too much material into too short a semester. Other students objected to this system, saying that it would eliminate "pure study days" during exam week.

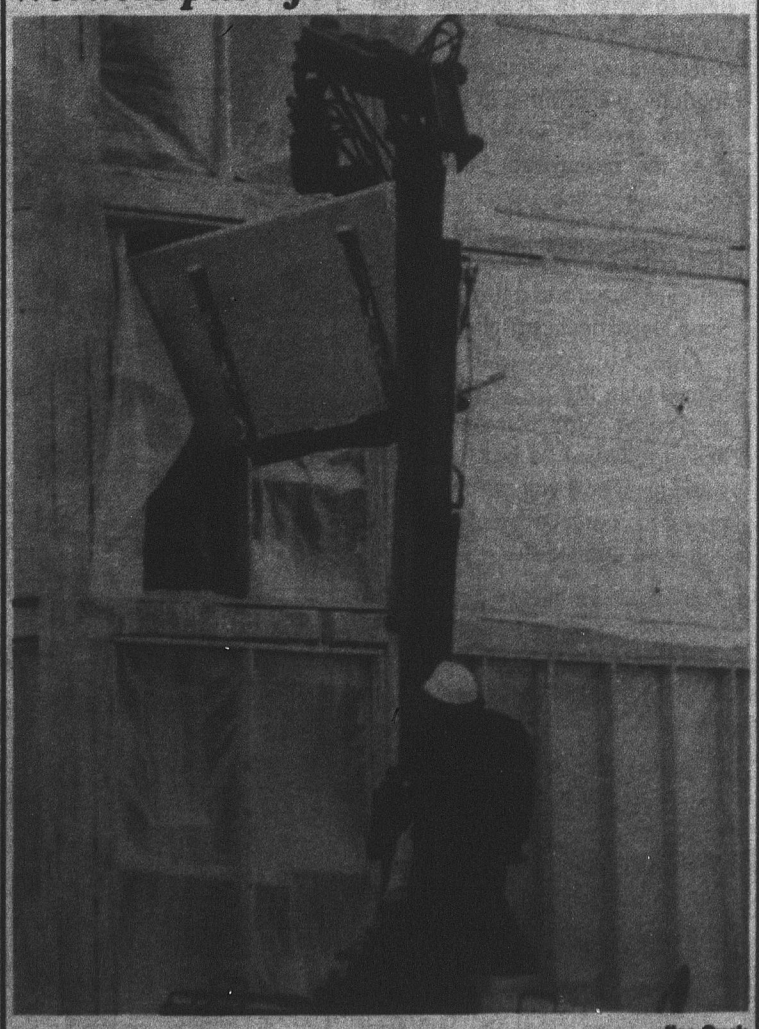
The second major suggestion was to keep the current 8-day exam period but to allow students to take their exams at two possible times during the period. Thus a student could choose to take an exam either early or late in the exam period. On the other hand, such a system would force the professors to proctor two exams for each class, and prevent them from correcting exams until after the exam period ended.

The third major suggestion was for a complete self-scheduling system, where students could take exams at whatever time they pleased. While this would obviously be a benefit for students, the problem lies in the logistics. Dean of Students Ann Hanson said that it would be "difficult to coordinate" such a system. She also expressed concern that there could be more honor code violations under a self-scheduled exam system.

A straw vote was taken, and the assembly was almost evenly divided between the four options, the status quo being the last option.

Briscoe and Grindley will soon return to the SGA with a completed exam-week bill, and then a formal vote will take place.

Workers push for summer deadline



Ilse Guck

Construction on Hadley, expected to be complete this summer, continues to cause headaches in the New Dorms.

House options change

By Jeff Albertson

Assistant Director of Residential Life Hieu Nguyen announced changes Monday in college housing plans which will directly impact next year's senior class.

Under the expected changes, five houses currently occupied by students will not be available during block draw. In addition, the number of students allowed to live off-campus will be significantly increased.

"There will still be a lot of diversity in terms of housing options for seniors," said Nguyen.

Students and custodial staff alike have agreed that the two houses to be removed from block draw, Koll and Heifer, are too far away from campus to make living in them practical.

Three of the South Street houses, numbers 43, 43 1/2, and 45, will be faculty residences next year.

Farrell House, which currently harbors the public affairs office and the Middlebury College Magazine, will be converted to student housing.

The number of students given permission to live off campus will rise, from the usual 60 to 80 or 90.

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College Shorts

Ryan Benedict

Video game school opens in Canada

The DigiPen Applied Computer Graphics School will begin to accept members to its first class this fall. The school, based in Vancouver, will be the first institution to train its graduates to design video games.

More than just a breeding ground for addicts, the school will require programming proficiency as well as a strong math and science background.

The school is seen as a breakthrough for the Canadian educational system, which is often perceived as inadequate and underfunded. "I thought I would just play junior hockey for a year, but now I've got career plans that I can begin next year," said one high school student from Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Universities crash corpses

Three universities have been using human cadavers donated for medical research to perfect auto safety in crash tests.

The University of Virginia, the Medical College of Wisconsin and Wayne State University have all been strapping these cadavers onto metal sleds and crashing them at speeds up to 35 miles per hour. "In order to build a [crash test] dummy, you need the data to make one," said Albert King, director of the Wayne State Biomedical Engineering Center. He believes that the tests he conducts are necessary and do not cross ethical boundaries.

For every test done with a cadaver, hundreds of computations are performed and large amounts of data are collected, according to Virginia officials. Similar tests done at Heidelberg University in Germany provoked demonstrations from Catholic church activists.

Insurance policy at Northeastern to cover abortion

Students at Northeastern University will have to pay an extra $3 for their health insurance so that abortions can be covered under the plan.

Northeastern joins Louisiana State University, the University of Florida and Florida State University in the group of well-known schools that has opted to cover abortions on their health care plans. These plans have brought about many moral and financial concerns among students.

The Women's Law Caucus at Northeastern spearheaded the move because they "feel that it's part of reproductive health care for women." A spokesperson for the group commented, "The idea that a woman should pay for it herself is a punitive attitude. We don't have that type of attitude about other medical needs that students have."

The opposition at Northeastern objects to paying for something they are morally against. "Paying for something that is in my mind the act of committing murder, that's the problem," said one student.

The new policy, along with the new fee, will not take effect until next fall.

Bomb scare fools Houston officials

The University of Houston canceled classes and called in a bomb squad recently when they found what seemed to be an explosive device. The scare turned out to be a false alarm when the device was discovered to be the discarded project of an art student.

The student's assignment was to create a tool. "He decided to do tools of a revolution as opposed to a hammer or something," said a university spokesman.

In recognition of his efforts, the student was issued a disciplinary referral. "He had quite a bit of contact with people in uniform as a result of this. The police want people to realize something like this is taken very seriously," said the spokesman.

Student crowned Ghanian king

Anthony Ephirim-Donkor, a graduate student at Emory University, was seized by locals in his Ghana hometown and taken to a sacred coronation ceremony when he returned home for a visit.

The locals paraded him through town and then placed him on a throne three times which is the symbolic gesture for the new king of Gomoa Mprumien, a small farming community of around 1000.

The role of monarch was possible for Ephirim-Donkor because he is descended from a royal family. "I've been trying to avoid it for years because it takes away personal freedom," he said.

Now that he is king, Ephirim-Donkor cannot ever walk alone or speak to an individual in public, he most always use an interpreter and he cannot allow his bare feet to touch the ground outdoors.

Sources: Christian Science Monitor, U. the National College Magazine

Global to Local

By David Nalchaljian

Possibility of continued air strikes in Bosnia downplayed

The threat of air strikes in Sarajevo has quelled fighting in the city, but the Pentagon's top civilian and military officials have been playing down the effectiveness of air power this week.

This is being done in order to slow calls for further military intervention. Defense Secretary William J. Perry delivered a speech last week in which he warned against greater military involvement and pointed to America's failings in Vietnam.

Gen. John Shalikashvili, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, defined the proper applications of force. "There were very specific conditions around Sarajevo that lent themselves to the application of air power, conditions that don't exist in any other places in Bosnia today."

The Pentagon has expressed its willingness to fulfill its obligation in protecting U.N. peacekeepers with air support. There is less of a sense of obligation to protect Bosnian Muslims, and there is an ever-present fear of open-ended military involvement.

While Pentagon officials usually try to promote the strengths of the military, they now find themselves in the peculiar role of limiting the viability of intervention.

Some worry, however, that playing down the efficacy of the military could give the Serbs the green light to strike in areas other than Sarajevo. "If this turns out to be a reversal to old Pentagon attitudes about the use of force in Bosnia, it is quite possible we could undermine the momentum behind our promising peace initiative," said Morgan Abramowitz, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and a former senior State Department official.

One Air Force officer who helped plan the air attacks during the Persian Gulf War said the remarks reflected "a lack of understanding of how you can employ air power to compel others to do what you want them to do."

Justice Department official resigns

Webster L. Hubbell, associate attorney general and longtime friend of the Clintons, resigned from his post on Tuesday in an effort to save the administration from further embarrassment.

The resignation comes amidst charges that the Justice Department official over-billed the law firm where he and Mrs. Clinton were once partners.

While White House officials stated that Hubbell made the decision to leave himself, they did nothing to dissuade him. One adviser said it was made clear that his departure would be helpful.

The resignation marks a disappointment for the Clintons, who have been associated with Hubbell both as friends and business partners. Hubbell is a former mayor of Little Rock and a State Supreme Court Justice, and worked closely with Mrs. Clinton at the Rose Law Firm.

The Hubbell departure comes at the same time that the inquiry into the Whitewater Development Company is widening. Although it is not believed that Hubbell has anything to do with the Whitewater affair, some of the disputed bills could involve one of the Clintons' partners in the deal.

Dean supports health care plan

Gov. Howard Dean pledged his support to the special House committee's universal health care plan and urged legislators in around Addison County to follow suit.

The plan would require all Vermont residents to be provided with health care by Jan. 1, 1996. To fund this effort, $94 million in new taxes would be raised in addition to an employer contribution.

"I'm very excited by this health care bill," said Dean. "No, it is not perfect, and yes it is going to go through a lot more evolution as it goes through the Senate."

Fluoride not favored in town

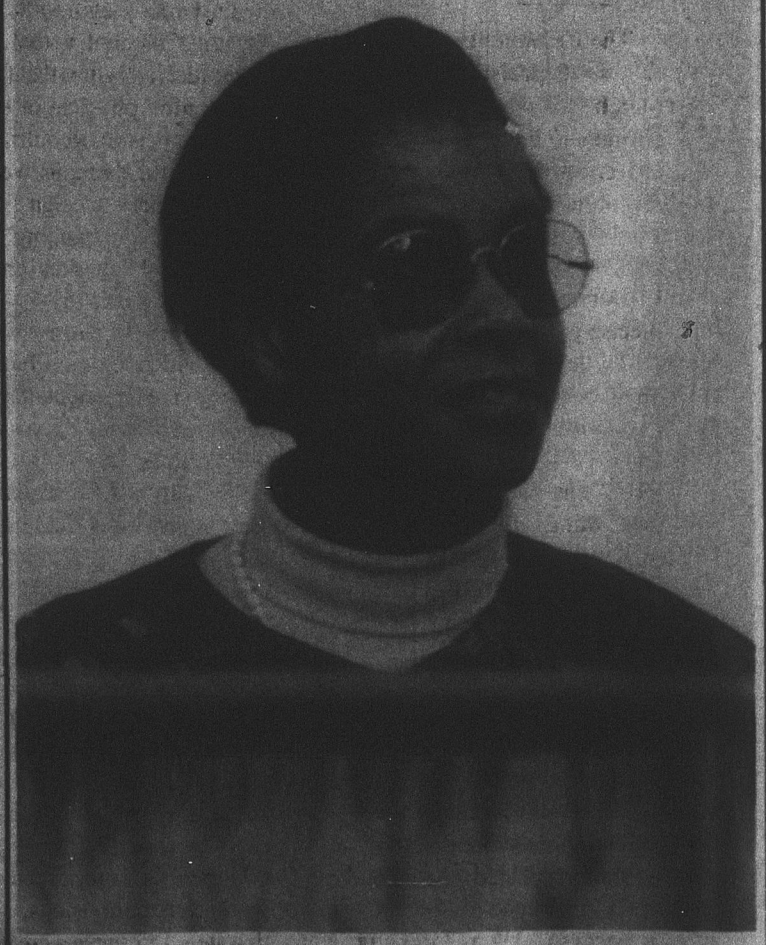
Middlebury leaders have expressed doubt that they will alter town policy and begin adding fluoride to city water anytime soon. The selectmen agreed to ask the Vermont Department of Health for information on water fluoridation, though they remained skeptical about changing the current policy which has been in effect for 20 years.

"I think it is unrealistic [to think] we are going to find a lot of other information and that we are going to change our policy," said Selectmen Michael Kieran.

This decision has come at a time when citizens are mobilizing to prevent fluoridation. A petition opposing the use of fluoride was circulated in town recently and attained over 350 signatures. The petition drive was led by Middlebury resident Ross Conrad, who believes there is too much conflicting evidence on the effectiveness of fluoride to support what he called "mass medication" of water consumers.

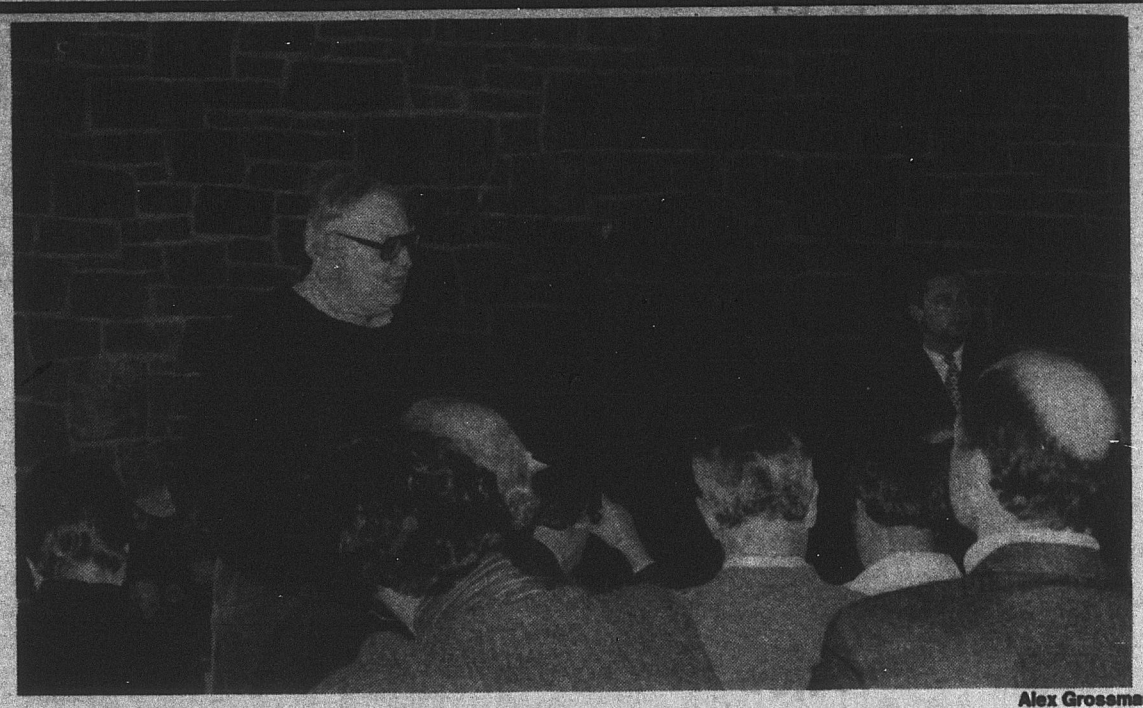
Sources: The New York Times, The Addison County Independent

College welcomes apartheid activist



Courtesy Photo

Apartheid activist, noted South African scholar and deputy vice chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Mamphela Ramphele, spoke at Middlebury last Friday to a captivated audience.



Alex Grossman

In a special meeting this Monday, faculty discussed and approved the new three-year B.A.

Selectivity bill passes narrowly

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vote signed this letter. In response, a number of students have been writing their own letters trying to explain all of the reasons that the social house system at Middlebury needs a selection process.

Members of the IHC, as well as members of the Community Council, have been drafting letters. Anthony Civale '96 hopes that "students continue to show their support by writing letters to President McCardell." Students have also taken time to meet with the president, who fielded questions on the selection bill for a majority of his open office hours on Tuesday.

McCardell says he will take into account all sides of the issue before making a final decision on the matter. He insists on taking adequate time to become well-informed before he announces his position. He said that it truly was "an easy matter on one level. When dealing with the abstract principles, no one is against inclusivity. The issue gets difficult when we apply it. The question now is what sectors selectivity is permissible in." McCardell said that although he plans on taking some time to weigh the issues, he will make a decision before the college recesses for summer break.

It is no secret that support of the bill has been split clearly between faculty and students. Faculty opinion is overwhelmingly against the establishment of a selection process and did not seem to budge through the debate process.

As one faculty member said, "Both sides came as far as they could, but then there was a canyon between them. They couldn't go any further."

Chris Klyza, a professor in the political science department and a voting member of the Community Council, did not see the debates as pointless, although he did not support the bill. He said that he had problems with the bill in the beginning that were alleviated by the amendments. "The bill is better than it was, especially with the appeals process," he said, adding that his opposition to the bill lies simply in the principle behind it. Representing the faculty, he found it difficult to vote in good faith for houses that could exclude students. Voting for the bill, he felt, would have been an institutional stamp in favor of exclusion, a principle he believes Middlebury is strongly against.

Some students argued against the assertion that selection equals exclusion. Open parties would continue to be standard at Middlebury, and so all students could still partake in social house activities.

Matt Hamilton '95, who became president of the IHC this past Tuesday, discussed his frustration with the current situation. "The selection bill provides a framework that is as fair as possible for the future house members to follow. It provides guidelines that are as open as any other organization on campus. Selectivity is the future of the social house system."

He quoted the Residential Life Committee Report saying that "Residential Life should give students substantial opportunities and responsibilities to initiate, organize and direct the social life of college." The selection bill, he felt, would allow social house members to "direct their houses so that members will continue to participate in the community in a positive manner."

The IHC is organizing faculty discussion groups in the next few weeks. Hamilton hopes the turnout will be better than it has been in the past.

He hopes to see that before people pass judgment, they will come see what social houses are all about. "It really is more than just drinking beer." In this way, he hopes to eliminate the "canyon" that seems to be dividing the campus into two halves.

The bill's fate lies with McCardell's decision. He plans to meet with the Community Council next Monday, April 4, when he will listen to arguments and come one step closer to making his decision.

Hazing policy clarified

By Noelle Campagna

The Community Council came to a swift decision this Monday, March 14, when they discussed changes to the College Handbook concerning Middlebury's Anti Hazing policy. A decision of 10-0-1 was the result of a united opinion of students, faculty, staff and administrators, as they molded a clear and precise proposal.

Dudley Winthrop '94, Community Council co-chair was pleased by the initiative that students had taken. "The Inter-House Council [IHC] has been working hard to make things work which is evident in the end results." The major concerns that governed changes were primarily language and clarity.

Language changes involved taking the step from old fraternity language and using new words. The word "pledging" was completely struck from the handbook, replaced by the phrase "educational process." Similar phrases and jargon were similarly replaced or eliminated.

Clarity became a central source of concern. All members present sought to make clear the college's rigid stand against hazing. A list of prohibited examples included forcing someone to eat something against one's own will, requiring the use of alcohol, verbal abuse and other such activities that threatened the mental, physical or emotional state of a person. Requiring all provisional members, as well as current members, to sign the "Statement of Understanding" was explicitly established and entered into Handbook guidelines.

Implementations were also added which required that the president or vice president of the IHC be informed of any alleged infractions. The organization violating the policy will be held accountable, as well as any individual members in violation. The identification of three contact members in each house that could be reached in a case where hazing had occurred was mandated and leaders were given explicit rules obligating them to inform all members of this anti-hazing policy.

John Emerson, vice president for student affairs and co-chair of the Community Council, proudly congratulated the students that had worked on the revisions. He claimed that steps like these were what separated Middlebury from other educational institutions and moved it toward a better future.

Full faculty approves three-year program

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through here faster and more cheaply," he said.

The third concern raised by Olinick, and the one most reiterated by his peers, was that because many of the students would not be studying at Middlebury language schools, the Middlebury faculty would have very little to say about the content and structure of the courses taken. In some cases, this would mean that as many as one half of a student's courses may be outside of the Middlebury curriculum and distribution system.

In addition to these concerns about the program itself, some of the faculty voiced complaints about the procedure by which the original, premature announcement was made. Press releases were sent to such newspapers as the *Boston Globe* and the *Burlington Free Press*, both of which ran stories about the alleged faculty approval three weeks ago. A few members of the faculty feared that the special Monday meeting was simply held to get a rubber stamp on a done deal.

The issue was not that the faculty would have voted against the decision of the Curriculum Council but that it now found itself feeling forced to vote for a good thing. The vote, as it turned out, was overwhelmingly in favor of the experimental institution of the program, which pleased McCardell.

"Such experiments allow us to rely on our distinctive curricular strength to do new things," he said afterward. "An institution that is unwilling to experiment is doomed to mediocrity."

The original motion, proposed by Director of the Language Schools and Vice President for Foreign Languages Clara Yu, stated that the Educational Council will conduct a review at the end of the three-year experiment, promising it will "make a recommendation to the faculty on [the program's] continuance."

However, during the discussion, Yu sketched some broad strokes about the proposal, and the faculty wanted specifics. Some other major concerns in addition to Olinick's were the grade inflation that sometimes occurs at overseas universities, the adequacy of the three-year trial period and the fact that the cost-effectiveness of the three-year B.A. may cause some students to choose it for financial reasons, thwarting the educational philosophy behind the program.

More than one department head spoke up about the vague wording in the motion concerning the Middlebury faculty's involvement with the courses of instruction the students in the program will receive while not at Middlebury. The motion calls for "significant coordination" between Middlebury and foreign schools "where possible."

Yu responded to this concern by pointing out that this problem surfaces every year and each department deals with it differently. "Many students already go abroad for a semester, and nowadays going for the whole year is getting more common, so we all see that coordination is important," she said. "But we're not talking about a large population [of students] for this [new program]. It would involve a small number of screened students ... who are highly talented, highly motivated and mature, and who must be carefully selected."

Both Yu and McCardell see the move as a possible selling point for Middlebury, a move which may help attract students from schools like Harvard, Yale and Williams. Experimentation can lead to innovation, the president said, pointing out that "there is nothing magical about four courses with one final exam at the end, for a thirteen-week term, with eight semesters and then graduation."

As for the issue of cost-effectiveness, some faculty seem wary of the new program being used as a way to get through Middlebury for less money. To that notion McCardell simply replied, "There is more than one way to get a Middlebury education; the longer it takes, the more it costs."

Senior class' housing options set to change

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Nguyen attributed the increase to concerns about the possible effects of the ongoing New Dorms renovation project.

He cautioned that because the "continuing commons" proposal is still being discussed, it could possibly be implemented in a limited way through this year's room draw.

"It wouldn't significantly affect the overall draw," said Nguyen of the concept, which would guarantee students a room in the commons in which they presently reside.

Information on both block and regular draws will be distributed to student boxes during spring break. Block applications, available in Old Chapel, will be accepted through noon on April 7. Block draw itself will take place in McCullough on April 12.

Regular room draw will be held April 18-28 by graduating class and gender. "Usually people who end up with bad rooms can request a better one and we'll try to meet their needs," said Nguyen, who does not expect everyone to get a room through room draw.

Nguyen's position as assistant director of residential life will no longer be treated as a one-year temporary internship. This means that he will be on campus to provide continuity in the room draw process through the summer and fall. "I'll be around for a long time," he promised.

Green Cup continues

By Lee Chilcote

The Green Cup competition has entered its third month, with more speakers, recycling competitions, and increased attention to wasted food and energy in the dining halls. The Environmental Council also hopes to announce the winner of the Environmental Quality (EQ) mug design competition soon.

Students and faculty have volunteered to scrape plates in the dining halls every Wednesday night this month as part of the recycling portion of the Green Cup. The Environmental Council has organized plate-scraping to weigh the amount of food students take but do not eat, and to discourage wasteful habits on campus. On Feb. 16, EQ reported that the college wasted a total of 473 pounds of food. On the following Wednesday, 616 pounds were recorded wasted. Organizers say their goal is to reduce the amount of food waste. Signs posted in dining halls are aimed at reminding students of the quantity of waste.

Students can also look forward to a new EQ mug design, as two new designs have been tentatively chosen by an Environmental Council committee. The committee took a poll in Proctor to get student feedback on the top designs this past Tuesday, and the winning design will be announced soon. A $50 prize will be awarded to the winner.

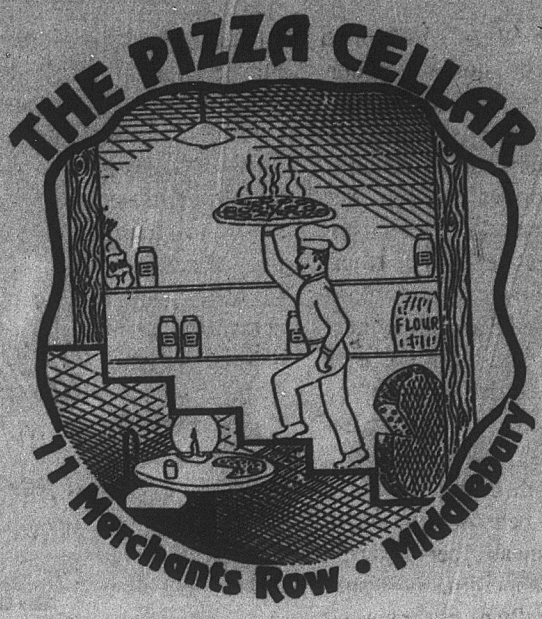
Other winners in the Green Cup are the residents of Weybridge and Painter, who proved themselves to be the best at sorting out trash from recyclables. Prizes included recycled shoes, a pizza from Green Peppers Restaurant and a one week membership to Vermont Sun and Fitness.

In January, the top dorm and house in the energy awareness competition enjoyed an Energy Dinner in the Chateau. Faculty and staff, including George Whitney, Director of Operations, and professors Chris Klyza and Tom Carr waited on students.

The Green Cup has also brought speakers on environmental issues to the campus. Porter Ball '89, Recycling Coordinator for Addison County, stressed the reduction of waste before the recycling phase in her lecture entitled "Reduce It: Don't Produce It." Barry Lampke, the Director of the Association of Vermont Recyclers, spoke March 9 on "Buying Recycled: Closing the Loop."

Lampke urged consumers to use what influence they have to buy recycled, and strengthen the recycled products market. One problem with the recycling market, he said, is that supply outstrips demand.

In response to a question on the quality and prices of recycled products, Lampke responded that such issues were very product-specific, and he urged people to set aside aesthetic concerns, such as the whiteness of paper, as recycled paper is often gray, and give recycled products a trial run.



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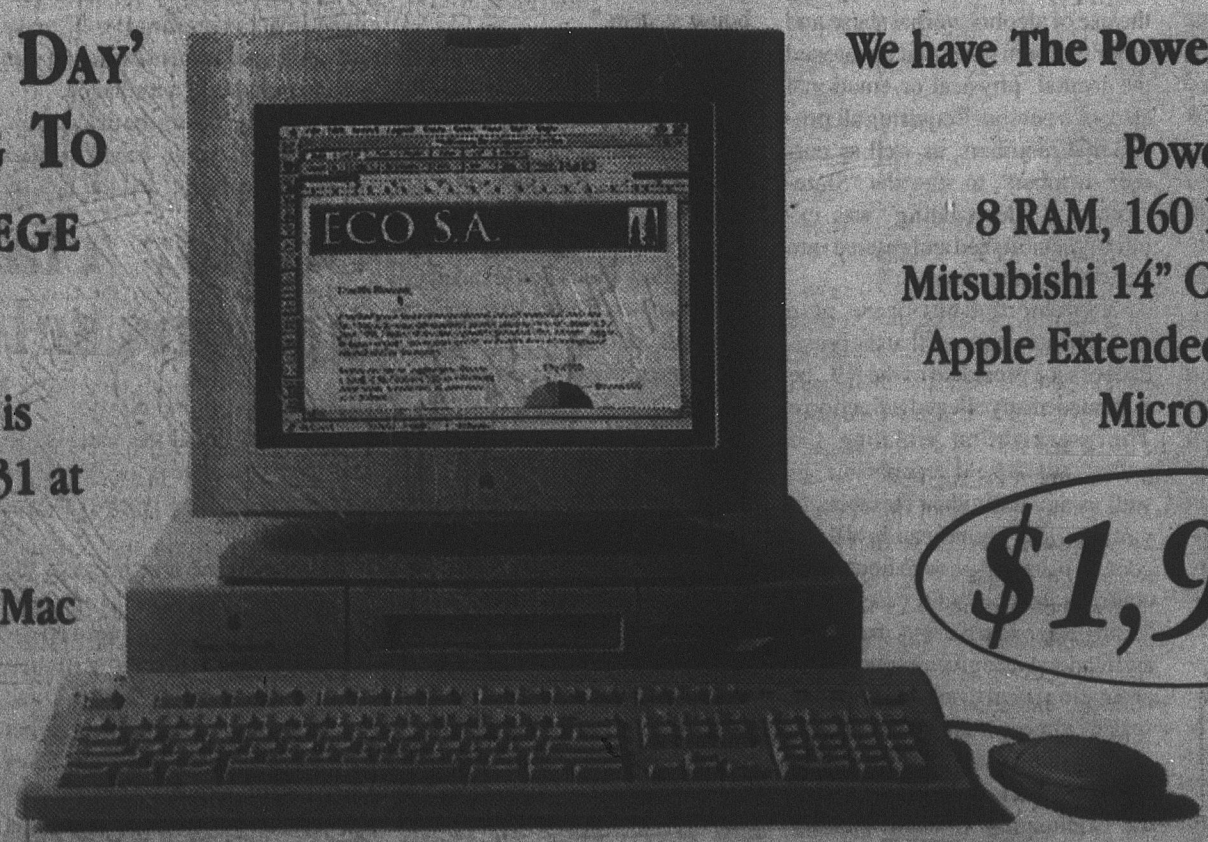

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Professor Wyatt provides valuable perspective

Professor Cornwall's attack on the character and leadership of President McCardell is prompted by the appointment of Professor Wyatt to the position of Dean of the College. It is, he says, "the final straw." Cornwall does not question Wyatt's character or competence; in fact, he describes him as a man of great integrity, and an effective and extremely dedicated teacher. What then is Cornwall's complaint?

Wyatt's personal liability, from Cornwall's point of view, is that he is an African American who has not taken an active political role in the promotion of minority positions at Middlebury College. Wyatt, it seems, has not viewed himself primarily as a black man, but as an East Asian historian and college professor. It is an attitude that would seem to be reasonable in a society that professes to wish to rid itself of racial stereotypes.

Professor Cornwall does not attack Professor Wyatt's lack of an activist role in promotion of minority issues, per se, but he does object to having a non-activist as the ranking student affairs administrator. In fact, when Cornwall charges that the appointment reeks of "cynicism" and "conservative-style political correctness," he is charging tokenism: the calculated appointment of an African-American who, in Cornwall's words, is not "too black." The charges are unwarranted.

The cynicism, in fact, may be in the eye of the beholder, that is, in Professor Cornwall's personal perception of the appointment. Would Middlebury really be better served by someone who is an activist for the cause of a particular subset of students, or by an individual who takes a broader, and more moderate view? Might our community be served best by an individual who combines a broader perspective with a personal background that allows him to empathize with the problems facing those of whom are the subjects of discrimination? In Professor Wyatt we have an individual who has those qualities, and possesses the important character traits that Professor Cornwall himself notes at the beginning of his letter to the editor.

Would Middlebury really be better served by someone who is an activist for the cause of a particular subset of students, or by an individual who takes a broader and more moderate view?

There is irony in the fact that the article on the Middlebury Gay Lesbian Bisexual Alliance (MGLBA) meeting appears on the first page of the same issue of *The Campus* in which Cornwall's letter appears. The community response to the MGLBA meeting belies the despair that permeates Cornwall's letter.

In fact, the remarkable thing about the dramatic social changes that have occurred at Middlebury in the past several years is that they have occurred with so little conflict and bitterness, not to mention the absence of violence. Activists like Cornwall certainly have contributed significantly to the gains that we have made, but we also have been fortunate in having people in Old Chapel who have viewed their role as mediators among the several contending factions and representatives of the good of the whole, as opposed to champions of one faction or another.

Finally, and most regrettably, Professor Cornwall's letter contains remarks that can only be characterized as outrageous personal attacks on President McCardell and Professor Wyatt, and we write to express our disapproval of his intemperance. Throughout this academic year, the faculty has been engaged in full and vigorous debates on proposed rules changes as well as other controversial issues. These debates have been carried out in a civil manner during those faculty meetings. The same standard of civility should apply in our written communications on issues of community concern. This is especially the case where the issues are controversial and reasonable men and women can and do disagree over them.

Professor Russell Leng
Professor Murray Dry
Professor Paul Nelson
Department of Political Science

Cartoonist's depiction of bulimia shows bad taste

For quite some time now I've tolerated Jim Rodda's "Sticks and Stones" comics. Sometimes they're funny, sometimes they're not. On the whole they never aroused much of a reaction out of me. This week, however, was different.

I can't imagine that there are many people left on this campus that are not aware of the prevalence of eating disorders here. The things we pride ourselves on, such as fitness, good looks, and intelligence, have created an atmosphere of competition that is a breeding ground for bulimia and anorexia.

By underestimating the severity of the illness and the difficult nature of recovery, Rodda has degraded the entire issue to a one line, quick-fix-it prescription, "Get help or you'll probably die."

Middlebury College as a microcosm of the world probably does not sustain a greater percentage of eating disorders than that of the general population. Our small size might dramatize the problem, but it does not distort it.

As part of an on-going debate focused around body image, fingers have been pointed in many directions placing the blame on the media, the fashion industry, and various other ills of our society. My interest here is not to point a finger, or even to engage in this line of dialogue. It is simply to ask what Mr. Rodda's intentions were. Is he genuinely concerned about this problem? Is he trying to heighten awareness? Or is he simply making a mockery of a serious issue?

We live in a community that has fostered openness about this subject. Women (or men, as is sometimes, though more rarely, the case) are encouraged to discuss their battles with body image and eating disorders. Education and tolerance have created a greater degree of understanding about these issues. I would like to think that a woman facing such problems would no longer have to fear ridicule and criticism from her peers. Jim Rodda's cold depiction of the eating disorders that plague our campus, as well as our society, tells me that I am wrong.

By underestimating the severity of the illness and the difficult nature of recovery he has degraded the entire issue to a one line, quick-fix-it prescription, "Get help or you'll probably die." I agree with him that "help" is vital. But what kind of help? Counseling and support groups no doubt are the best place to start.

But what about our obligation as a community, or Mr. Rodda's obligation as a concerned citizen — if that's what he would claim to be. Our responsibility is to keep this debate open, to keep the dialogue supportive. Our message should not be a vile and cursory sketch whose only statement is "we think you're a disgusting freak," but rather one that acknowledges the serious nature of the illness and expresses interest in combatting it.

Mr. Rodda believes that the root of an eating disorder is self-esteem. While an important contributing factor it is not the only cause. Regardless, his statement did or said nothing to promote higher self-value, and probably only served to perpetuate an already horrific problem. Congratulations Jim, I think your sticks and stones probably broke some bones this week.

Alison B. Vreeland '94

Faculty underestimates capabilities of students

The other day, an extremely rare (as anyone who knows me will attest) event occurred: I was rendered utterly speechless. The source of my silence was a statement made by a Middlebury College professor who asserted, "American undergraduates are incapable of serious academic work."

Although my initial, dumbfounded expression, had this professor seen it, would probably have confirmed his or her theory, my shock rapidly transformed into indignation and great offense. I then rationalized this statement as an attempt at self-aggrandizement. Further inquiries with other professors, however, yielded many less than resounding denials of the original statement.

These events, taken together, opened my eyes to a problem which seems grossly out of place on this campus. Leaving aside the obvious errors the speaker introduces into the assertion by basing it upon a vague and unsupported generalization, let's assume that the statement accurately represents the state of American undergraduate education, specifically here at Middlebury College. Why, then, does this professor (and those who support his or her allegation) elect to teach in this country and at this institution? If they are so frustrated and dissatisfied with the incompletely formed minds placed before them that they must continually long for the "serious students" in remote regions of the world, why do they not accept positions in Europe or Asia — perhaps in a country where students do nothing except study?

More immediately, attitudes such as this shed light onto possible reasons why an allegedly aggrieved student such as Brian Schaefer would choose to (in the words of the Am. Lit/Am. Civ Department), "ostensibly address the inequities of the English Department's Comprehensive Exam [as well as] launch a personal attack on the faculty member who examined him" through a public letter in the paper. Although I do not condone Mr. Schaefer's sharp and specific attack, I think that I can empathize with his position.

First, in light of the fact that some professors believe that "American students" lack the capacity or inclination for serious study or work, why should any American student even attempt to strive for this level which he or she clearly cannot attain? If a student does make such an effort, how can any professor upholding this position possibly grade that student? Should this opinion prove to be plausible, however, it is clear that all "advanced study" requirements (e.g., Senior theses, independent projects, comprehensive examinations) should be removed from the curriculum. In fact, any course work

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On that note

Porter Fox

"Oommmmmm..." If you were awake at 10:00 a.m. on the last Sunday of our *Winternational Extravaganza*, you may have heard a mysterious low droning sound reverberating off of Old Chapel, Voter, Gifford, McCullough and Hepburn. What was it? Where was it? Could it be that the VJ from Friday night was break dancing to his deafening sub woofers right outside your door? Or maybe a crazed service building worker was running the luge on that green Fisher Price all terrain vehicle?

A quick look at the quad would instantly dispel your suspicions, for there you would have seen eight guys standing around a non-descript pile of snow cleansing themselves of the ills of every day life. Say what!? We were asking ourselves the same question as we fought our head-splitting hangovers to search for spiritual purity and turn a twelve foot tall, melting a pile of frozen water into Guatama Buddha.

The occasion was the annual snow sculpture contest at the end of Winter Carnival. Seven friends and I entered the competition having no artistic background and not an inkling of what we were going to create, but by the end of the day, we found ourselves touched by the figure that emerged from our designated lot. Life is hard, inherently hard, and different people battle their way through it in different ways. Some end up in jail, some in a monastery, still others find themselves packing into an elevator every morning at 8:55 a.m. only to be asphyxiated by a cloud of aftershave and perfume. Everyone uncovers and pursues their individuality for direction in life; however, no one can escape the harsh wild cards that are dealt in the course of lifetime.

Guatama Buddha recognized these hardships and found that the best way to deal with them was through mental and moral self-purification. The peaceful image of Buddha sitting under a tree meditating often comes to mind when discussing the religious leader. What a man he must have been to create a religion from his own philosophy of life. A religion that delineated the true and straight path to happiness in this world — Buddhahood.

While I cannot claim that my fellow sculptors and I attained Buddhahood, or even caught a glimpse of the enlightenment, I can assure you that we liberated ourselves from the sufferings of college life on a Sunday. Every scoop of snow took us one step closer to the man we knew was trapped inside and one step away from the nauseating aftertaste of Winter Carnival.

While other people were still reaching for their 32 oz. water glass on the bedside table and typing critical reviews of the "flopped snow sculpture" contest, eight of

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Editorial

Follow through on complaints

Hardly a day goes by without someone voicing a criticism of the dining services at Middlebury. Considering that meals form a focal point of social interaction at the college, and that nearly all students eat on campus, the abundance of comments is not surprising. There do in fact appear to be a number of areas, mostly involving physical restructuring, that can and should be improved upon in the present dining halls.

Yet, if students truly want change, they must do more than merely complain. Substantive suggestions that go beyond personal requests for a particular salad dressing or juice need to be offered to those making the decisions about the future of food services at Middlebury. Students were given the opportunity to have their voices heard last Tuesday when the Student Government Association (SGA) Dining Services Committee held an open meeting on the issue. On hand were numerous Middining representatives, from cooks to administrators, but almost no students.

The few students who did attend asked all too familiar questions about why their favorite foods were not served often enough, resulting in the understandable conclusion that "you can't please all of the people all of the time." Unfortunately, none of the students who attended (besides those on the SGA committee) appeared ready to discuss any of the major problems with the dining halls. Issues of overcrowding — in service areas, drink areas and seating areas — were neglected in lieu of debates on the value of having chicken fingers at lunch everyday. The fact that the Proctor facility is serving a population much too large was raised by members of dining services, but there were no interested students on hand to engage in a meaningful discussion of possible solutions.

Credit should be given to the SGA committee for trying to involve students in shaping Middlebury's dining future; the meeting was well advertised with table tents placed, appropriately, throughout Proctor. Thanks should also be extended to the members of dining services who took time out of their busy schedules to provide a forum in which substantial and realistic changes could be debated. The average student, however, who finds it appropriate to make disparaging comments about the food service but is not willing to take steps to make real progress, needs to work with and not against Middining.

Expedite decision making

The social house bill passed the Community Council this week, clearing one more hurdle in the long steeplechase that is the Middlebury College bureaucracy. The bill first appeared in October and President McCardell has said that he hopes to make a decision on it before summer. Grumblings from the faculty have also indicated that they would like to have a voice in the debate.

It is true that the community should not rush into decisions, and it is true that this issue requires a lot of thought, but time is of the essence to the houses in the current transitional period. Houses are ambivalent about conducting a pledge this spring and potential new members are left in limbo as well. It has taken a long time for the bill to come this far, the discussion has been thorough, and further delays are only a disservice to everyone involved.

Students have been firmly in favor of the bill all along, and despite efforts to placate the faculty and staff, the council's vote along student-faculty/staff lines showed that positions have not altered. All the time taken so far has not changed student opinion and has not changed faculty and staff opinion; continuing the "debate" is fruitless.

The Middlebury Campus

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Appointment symbolizes success

Professor Richard Cornwall's letter in *The Campus* criticizing President McCardell's appointment of the new Vice President for Student Affairs does an injustice to Professor Don Wyatt. It is sad to see how Cornwall's anger and bitterness about homophobia in our society led him to use Professor Wyatt's appointment as a handle for yet another of his intemperate attacks on the college's leadership.

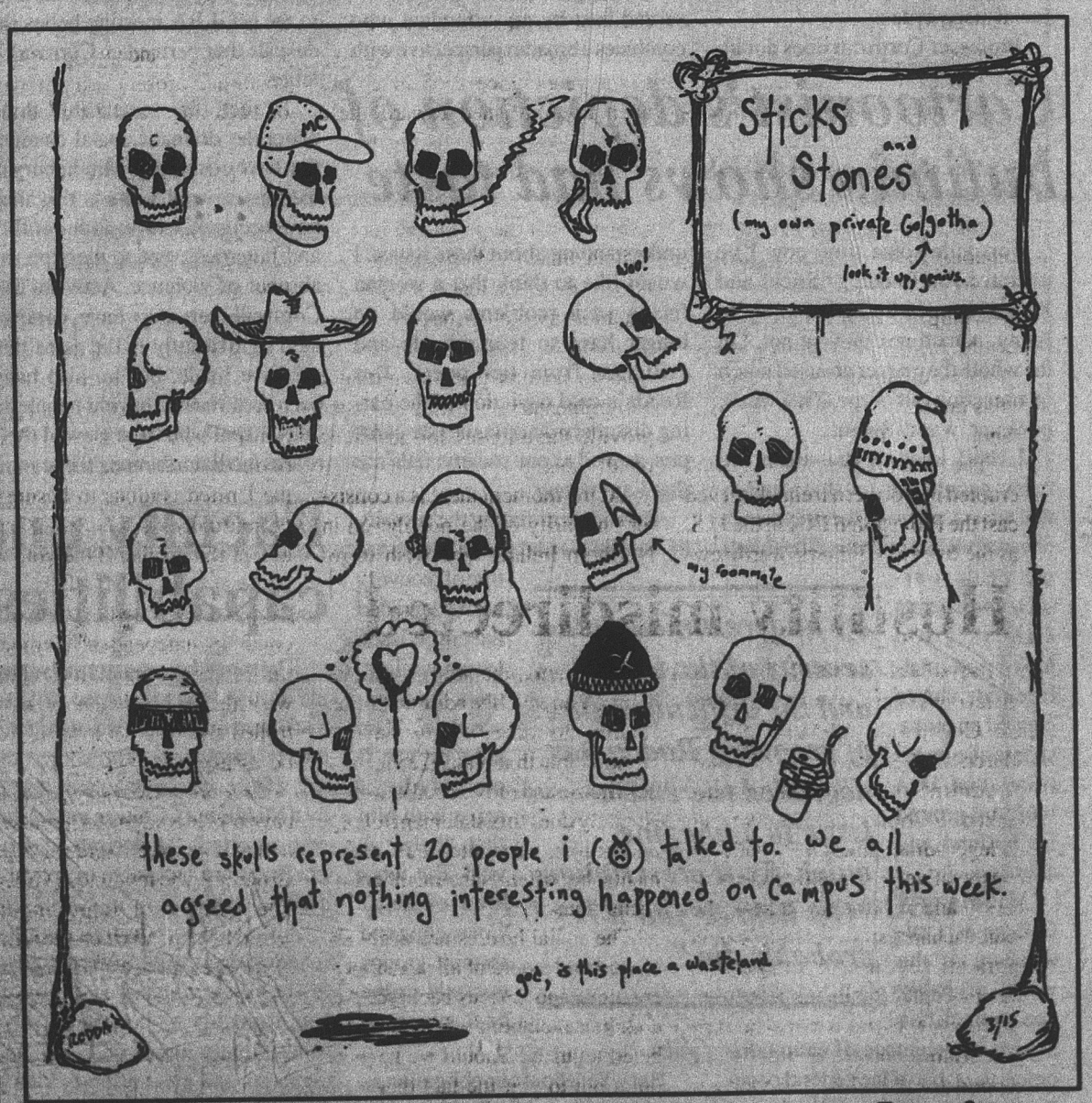
To support his contention about President McCardell's motives in selecting an African American for this office, Professor Cornwall makes the misleading assertion that "someone with no experience" was appointed "without a national job search."

This assertion is based on a mistaken understanding of how appointments to the office of the Dean of the College have been made in the past. Professor John Emerson and his two predecessors were appointed without a national job search. At the time of their appointments they had taught at Middlebury long enough to know and understanding this community well. On faculty committees they had shown a capacity to handle difficult issues in a thoughtful and sensitive manner and to make wise and fair decisions. Professor Wyatt follows this pattern.

The most shameful part of Professor Cornwall's letter are the references to "conservative-style political correctness," cynicism, and "token black faculty" as an explanation for the appointment of Professor Wyatt. African Americans growing up in our country encounter prejudice and discrimination from childhood on. When their intelligence, strength of character, and education enable them to succeed and to assume positions of leadership, they are then subjected to offensive comments that belittle their accomplishments.

Certainly up to now Professor Wyatt's career at Middlebury has been pathbreaking. Let us hope that in the not too distant future many more African Americans will be members of the faculty and will be able to demonstrate their qualities of leadership in adminstrative positions without having to experience success as a burden.

Marjorie Lamberti
Professor of History


Sticks and Stones
(my own private Golgotha)
look it up, genius.
woo!
my roommate
these skulls represent 20 people i (☹) talked to. we all agreed that nothing interesting happened on campus this week.
god, is this place a wasteland
3/15

Middining needs creative solutions

We believe that most students would agree that the college's meal plan is flawed. Often we find ourselves having to make the difficult choice between the greasy food that they serve in Hamlin or disappointing meals that are available at the two other dining units.

The problem with this institution's food is that there isn't any competition for catering. Since competition is the very essence of quality assurance, the lack of this element in the college's catering program is the cause for the consistently poor quality of food that the college provides at the dining units. This situation must be corrected if the college wants to strive to raise the living standards of its students.

Middining is the sole caterer of the college's students. Since the students have to pay for the over-priced college meal plan in advance, the dining service does not have to worry about losing its customers or its operation costs. We realize that Middining does attempt to solicit student input about food and services, but we feel that the current meal plan diminishes the importance of student suggestions.

The only real impact the customers have on the caterer is the ability not to pay for undesired services. This right is not an option for us in our current system. A meal plan, in which one pays for what one eats, could be the solution to this problem. Many students seldom go to breakfast. We would propose a meal plan that would refund the meals that we missed at the school, $3 for each breakfast, $5 for each lunch and $7 for each dinner. This plan would stimulate the dining services to provide students with meals that appeal to our appetites. A "pay for what you eat" system would force the dining services to pay more attention to the needs and wants of its customers. If they continually serve food that does satisfy students, they will suffer financial losses. Financial losses will ensure the quality of the food in the cafeterias.

We understand that Middining Services tries to serve food that students will enjoy. But, we feel that the current meal system constrains their ability to do so. Our proposed meal plan would stimulate more competition, thus assuring the quality of the food here at Middlebury.

Jeff Lindley '96
Ivan Ting '96

Director denies claim of lower admission criteria

In a letter published in last week's *The Campus*, Michelle Bishop '95 asked that the admissions office refute the claim of "lower admissions criteria" for students of color made in the draft report on financial aid produced by an Student Government Association (SGA) committee. I am happy to do so, as I have in at least three public forums since the draft report was discussed on Feb. 20 by the SGA.

Applicants who happen to be students of color are not admitted under different criteria or lower standards than applicants who are not students of color.

It seems to me that a general area of misconception on this campus has to do with a real lack of understanding of the work of the admissions office. I dare say that 80 percent of Middlebury's applicants are qualified to attend the college. We could admit any one of these applicants and, barring unforeseen circumstances, these students should be able to graduate in four years with a B- average or better.

Obviously, we don't have the room to admit 80 percent of our 3866 first-year applicants, so the admissions officers make a subjective judgment about who is admitted and who is not. Is one applicant a particularly strong scientist? Is another applicant a particularly talented musician? Has another applicant dealt with family tragedy in such a way that she appears to possess an unusual level of maturity?

We seek students who will not only perform at a high level in the classroom, but who will also contribute positively to campus life through strength of character, involvement in one or more extracurricular activities, and commitment to this special place. We address such important factors as intellectual curiosity and commitment, motivation, persistence, leadership, creativity and the many additional abilities and talents that Middlebury values in its students.

We in admissions do our best to bring an interesting, diverse and talented class of students to campus each year. We are one of a handful of institutions in this country that has the luxury of "crafting a class" that will enhance the education of the entire student body. I hope that in the future we can come to celebrate the contributions that each student brings to Middlebury, regardless of socio-economic background, ethnicity, gender, country of origin or skin color.

Geoffrey Smith
Director of Admissions

Fenwick offers peace plans for Northern Ireland

In an ironic twist, I actually intended to address the Northern Ireland question this week before I realized that this issue would appear on St. Patrick's Day. Happy St. Patrick's Day, everyone.

I want to explore the ramifications of the visit of Gerry Adams to the United States earlier this year in light of the three mortar attacks on Heathrow in particular, and the continuation of Provisional IRA atrocities in general in the wake of the Downing Street Declaration of December 1993, in which all peaceful parties were invited to substantive talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

The sectarian violence that erupted in Northern Ireland in 1968 cast the Provisional IRA in the U.S. as the freedom fighters overthrowing British political, ethnic and religious persecution. I am the first to agree that there were grave injustices in Northern Ireland and that changes were necessary. I think that in the years since 1968 much has been accomplished toward these ends. I also believe that the whole population is Irish, and that as such they are inextricably bound to Ireland, but that the population is also British, linked by heritage and custom to Britain. Hence, we have a situation in which we have two sides each with legitimate grievances and links to nations that are mutually complimentary, but who in Ulster provide the excuses for atrocities on all sides.

At the moment there is a consistent majority of the population in Northern Ireland who wish to remain British. Further, this majority contains Protestants and Roman Catholics. I would like to provide three proposals to bring peace to Northern Ireland. All are based on continued prosecution of terrorists on both sides, and the general disarming of the populace. They are intended to bring peace to a troubled region, and not to reward terrorism by either the Provisional IRA or the "Loyalist" paramilitary forces, particularly the Reverend Ian Paisley's Ulster Defence Force (UDF).

My first proposal is to have a binding referendum on the future of Northern Ireland on the question of remaining a part of the United Kingdom. This would be supervised by the United Nations to ensure that the mutually suspicious sides could accept the results. If the vote were in the negative (unlikely in 1994), then Northern Ireland would become an independent member of the Commonwealth, free to do as it wished, and with the streets patrolled the U.N. as long as it was necessary.

Second, it would be possible to have a referendum for representation at a peace conference open to all parties who renounced violence. The number of representatives would be dependent on the number of votes that each party received, and in addition, prominent representatives of all groups would be appointed. The peace conference would be chaired jointly by Britain and Ireland. At the conference, all possibilities would be open, provided they guaranteed the rights of all the people of Northern Ireland, and ensured democratic elections.

Third, the status quo could be maintained at a cost to the British tax payer of £3 billion per year, with increasing violence on both sides and 22,000 regular British combat troops in the middle getting shot at and blown up, with mounting calls in Britain for these troops to be allowed to "go after" both the Provisional IRA and the UDF. This is untenable.

Of these, I would like to see option one, and I would be happy with option two. I think that the actions taken by Gerry Adams' colleagues in the Provisional IRA after President Clinton thoughtlessly let an avowed terrorist into the US demonstrates that there is nothing to be gained from negotiating with any side that doesn't renounce violence, and amply demonstrates the disregard for the lives of innocent civilians by the Provisional IRA.

I call upon students and staff here at Middlebury to join with me in calling upon all sides that have continue to engage in terrorism to cease immediately and engage in negotiations, for the sake of everyone.

Toby Fenwick '95

Hostility misdirected

I am writing on behalf of the six social houses in response to Professor Cornwall's editorial in the March 10 edition of *The Campus* ("Administrative policies attacked"). Cornwall states that our college administration "smells of conservative-style political correctness," and refuses to address the issues at hand, such as homophobia or racial tensions. His argument was prompted by the appointment of Professor Wyatt, a man who supposedly has shown no interest or support for either the AAA or Bicultural Center, or for queer issues, as new dean of the college. Knowing little about Wyatt, I will refrain from making stereotyped judgments on what his individual beliefs are.

Professor Cornwall seemed to have some very valid points; my concern is that he undermined his argument with hypocrisy. Cornwall argues we need a strong administration to deal with stereotyping problems, yet in his very argument, he stereotypes social houses as homophobic.

Professor Cornwall, all of us here on campus are struggling to come to terms with racial and homosexual prejudice, and those of us who do support such rights react very strongly when lumped as one big homophobic group. I would agree with you that the administration should take a stronger hand in helping homosexual rights on this campus, yet I am a member of a social house. You say "the administration is failing to address in any way the homophobia that reeks through the field house and most social houses." Not only does this statement totally undermine your previous arguments, but offends the members of social houses.

The social houses are made up of student leaders of all sexual orientations and various backgrounds and their members refuse to be labeled unjustly. Should we have to point out to you the fact that gay/lesbian/bisexual people also belong to social houses in order for you to stop calling us homophobic? How can we foster a more open and accepting environment when snide comments are flung at us with no proof?

Many people in all sorts of groups on campus are on your side in trying to abolish homophobia, but in a larger sense we are also trying to abolish all stereotyping of all groups of people. If you have heard or seen evidence of homophobia at social houses or in any group on campus, please remember that these are individuals, and that name-calling will only strengthen the separation between groups on campus and breed hostility.

Chris Oshler '95
Secretary of IHC

Students missed chance

Why is the food so bad here? Why can we only get four chicken tenders at one serving? Why are there seven different types of vinegar in Hamlin? Why did only three people show up to ask these questions?

Griping about the food seems to be second nature at this school, but when criticism could make a difference, students struck out. Two students and one reporter showed up to voice their concerns about the food at Middlebury in a meeting prompted by a comment a while ago in SGA to the effect that the food sucks.

The Dining Services' staff, eight of them, and Ted Mayer, the Head of Dining Services, came prepared to answer all queries about the food at Middlebury. Students, however, either had no questions or care very little about what they eat. Many will protest that they did not know about the meeting, but table tents were in all of the dining halls and a campus wide phonemail was sent at the end of last week.

The Food Committee would like to thank the Dining Services' staff that attended the meeting and the two students who came with questions.

However, after hearing continuous moaning about the quality of the food, we wonder why people never seem interested enough to take some action.

The SGA Food Committee
Paul Marcus '94
Julie Beane '94
Ali Dorf '96

SAVODNIK

We are leftward bound. We live in a world which seeks perpetual liberalization, condemned to ever-growing chasms of moral depravity and anti-rationality. We embrace today what we rejected yesterday because we believe that today is ideologically superior to yesterday. But we know nothing of yesterday, and that is why we are all, each and every one of us, destined to become the same conservatives we lambast and shun and reject in the name of tolerance and individual rights.

Who are conservatives? Conservatives are people who subscribe to the same set of values their parents did. Conservatives embrace tradition because they believe that tradition breeds growth and happiness and general well-being. My parents did a good job, thus, I will do what my parents did.

Who are liberals? Liberals question the very same tradition conservatives hold onto so tenaciously. Liberals assert; Your tradition is racist and sexist and classist and oppressive; change it, i.e. liberalize.

And until recently, liberals were correct in thinking that this world, the world in which we live, was racist, sexist, classist and, in many respects, oppressive. However, liberals did not prepare for the day when all of the goals and aspirations they sought would be attained. Like the Cold Warriors who won the war but made no plans for the peace, liberals today are in search of more traditions to question, uproot, defy. And this kind of tradition-bashing is very bad.

Question *de la semaine:* why is tradition-bashing so very bad? Because we no longer differentiate between good traditions and bad traditions; we simply discard what was in order to make room for what is, or, more accurately, what will be. Certainly, there are traditions in American life which should, and/or have been, terminated: slavery, segregation and child labor. But there are traditions which we have an obligation to future generations to preserve: the family unit, education, religion, respect for our fellow human beings. The Left lashes out: How do we define "family unit?" What is the meaning of the western canon?

Are these meaningful questions? Perhaps. But why do we ask them? Why do we question the traditional "family unity" when that unit has successfully provided the fundamental basis for western political organization since Aristotle? My supposition is that liberals have forgotten that the original objective of liberalism was to reform, not to revolutionize. That is, we seek to change, and then we stop changing; we do not seek to change in order to destroy. We work toward a specific teleological good, and when we have arrived at that good, we must preserve the status quo.

Liberals may counter by saying the demands of the day force us to pursue new reforms that the liberals of yesteryear could not foresee. Maybe. But what does that mean?

(continued on page 8)

SGA committee forming

The recent discussions around campus concerning diversity have exposed many people to some of the complex and emotional issues involved in this topic. I view this as healthy and educational, yet given past experience, I question the longevity of this heightened awareness amongst the general community.

Since my arrival at Middlebury over three years ago, the College has tackled issues of diversity every year in the same manner: An event catalyzes widespread debate, some get excited about new "forums," some write letters to *The Campus* and everyone else hopes something good happens in the end. Unfortunately, real change and awareness has been slow in coming. The Student Government Association (SGA) would like to alter this trend.

An event catalyzes widespread debate, some get excited about new "forums," some write letters to* The Campus *and everyone else hopes something good happens in the end. Unfortunately, real change and awareness has been slow in coming.

Applications are available at the Student Activities desk for a new student group which will tackle various issues of diversity. The Student Committee on Diversity shall be composed of three SGA members and three other students. The appointments will be made through the normal appointments process which includes an application, interview and ratification. The committee hereby is charged specifically with:

1) Examining the numerous College reports on diversity and offering suggestions for implementation of recommendations from those reports;

2) Evaluating current, tangible topics such as Middlebury admissions activities, consistent funding for the Bicultural Center and incorporating understandings of diversity within our curricular offerings;

3) Studying how current programs offered outside the classroom succeed or fail in their efforts to educate the community about all aspects of diversity.

This committee shall be instituted as a standing committee next fall although the work must start now. The new members to be chosen within the next two weeks will have the tough job of fulfilling the requirements set forth above as well as creating a structure for the committee which will ensure its staying power. A preliminary report covering these issues will be presented to the SGA on April 24.

I encourage any and all students to apply for a position. Here, the term "diversity" encompasses a very broad range of areas, including but not limited to: race, ethnicity, national origin, geography and socio-economic status.

Hopefully, people interested in joining this committee will share at least one common goal: creating an open community willing to foster the attainment of this "diversity." This challenging task may appear impossible, but let us commit ourselves to the road of continual progress which remains the ultimate goal of many.

If you have other ideas or questions about this committee, please call the interim chair, Jacob Citrin, at ext. 3895.

Brendan O'Leary '94
President, SGA

HEY YOU TAKE THIS QUIZ, YEAH YOU
① What kind of vehicle do you drive?
(a) Ford Explorer
(b) Forest Ford Explorer
(c) Burgundy Ford Explorer
(d) all of the above
② I like my eggs to order:
(a) wet-n-sloppy
(b) dry-n-flakey
(c) rough-n-ready
(d) hot-n-heavy
③ If I was a sandwich, I would be:
(a) half-eaten
(b) heavy on the mayo
(c) in a Ziploc™ bag
(d) cut in triangles
④ When is an appropriate time to wear a baseball hat?
(a) "bad hair day"
(b) while playing baseball
(c) when I'm conscious
(d) definitely not while showering
⑤ In the Library, you:
(a) sleep
(b) read magazines
(c) cruise the information hi-way
(d) dog-ear every page you can get your hands on
(b) Deep fried meat chunks
(c) Eating
(d) appearing friendless
(a) Salmonella
(b) San Bernadino
(c) Cran-Dorito
(d) Anti pasto
(a) Bland Spam (Frisco
(b) Cheezy
(c) Sketchy
(d) geee willikers
⑥ My favorite slang word is:
(a) crusty
(b) cheezy
(c) sketchy
(d) geee willikers
⑦ When eating in Proctor, I left My Heart in:
(a) Bland Spam (Frisco
(b) San Bernadino
(c) Cran-Dorito
(d) Anti pasto
ANSWERS: TUNE IN NEXT WEEK AND ALL BE REVEALED!

Parking fines excessive and unjust

After finding out that over the last four years Middlebury College has accumulated $215,040.00 from parking tickets fined to students, I surely wanted to know the reasons why this was so. There is no doubt that parking is a major problem on campus. The number of spaces are plentiful, but convenience ultimately decides if a student parks "legally" or "illegally." According to Peter Chenevert, the head of Campus Security, there are students on campus who would rather pay a fine each day than inconveniently park in a proper lot.

I was appalled when I learned Middlebury College charges students twice as much as the town of Middlebury or other local governments charge for parking violations. At first glance, Middlebury College seemed to be overcharging for economic reasons, however once Peter Chenevert explained the history behind the parking problem, I was able to sympathize with Campus Security's predicament. For example, parking fines used to be $5.00, but at the same time, students were also charged $25.00 for registration. In order to encourage students to register their cars and park them in the proper spaces, in 1988 the registration fee was eliminated, but parking ticket fines were raised to $10.00.

As Peter Chenevert and I were examining the statistics, we discovered that once ticket fines were raised, there was a slight decrease in the number of issued tickets in the first year, but since then, the number of issued tickets has increased even more so than before the change took effect.

If raising the fines has had little effect, then how will Security deal with the parking problem? Peter Chenevert has made several proposals for constructing more parking lots, but has been turned down on the basis that if students do not park properly now, why should they park properly if there were more spaces? Another possible solution could be the construction of a parking garage, but this would be a $5 million project which is too expensive for such a small institution. As a result of the lack of options, Campus Security has little choice but to continue ticketing students and receiving the same disconcerting results. Unfortunately, I have not devised a cure-all solution for Middlebury College's parking problem; however, the present system must be revised. If the increase in fines has not been conducive to changing student parking habits then reducing the fines back to $5.00 should not add to the problem.

With a tuition of $24,500, Middlebury College is not exactly lacking financial support to say the least. I was told that the money accumulated by parking fines enters the "Miscellaneous Fund." If the fines are decreased to the standard $5 parking penalty, at least we, the students, would know *exactly* where our money would be spent.

Jimmy McMenamin '96

Faculty view disturbs

(continued from page 5)

which involves research, writing, or involvement beyond the merely cursory study must be eliminated.

Secondly, statements such as this reflect an opinion among the faculty which should give any student some pause about approaching a professor.

Although I do not claim to have conducted an exhaustive examination of the entire faculty, the absence of resolute denial of this statement by the professors I did survey nonetheless indicates a problem. If one is uncertain about a given professor's opinion about the capabilities of his or her students, how can that student feel confident or secure enough to ask a question let alone propose his own ideas?

It is precisely feelings similar to this which lead a student to find different forums in which to express their displeasure or concern aside from personal meetings with a professor.

Such situations are not only sad, but disturbing. Middlebury, the college which boasts of students, "well-prepared, engaged and eager to challenge professors," should not tolerate attitudes such as this which degrade both Middlebury students and this institution itself.

As John Milton notes, "Where there is much desire to learn, there of necessity will be much arguing, much writing, many opinions; for opinion in good men is but knowledge in the making." (*Areopagitica*). I think it goes without question that discussion in the Opinions section of this paper over the past several weeks stands as a testament to the willingness of American undergraduates to engage themselves in serious academic debate and therefore the pursuit of knowledge.

I can only but hope that our good efforts will reach the more cynical members of the teaching faculty.

Danielle Berry '95

Generations will change

(continued from page 7)

What are the ramifications of endless change? We create whole classes and generations of children and students and future leaders who have no sense of right and wrong, who have no basis to think or act or grow. But at Middlebury we are not so amoral; we are not so baseless; we are not so deconstructed that we are unable to discern good from bad. On the contrary, Middlebury students believe in things and ideas. They act, react, feel, think, write, protest. They possess values and value systems.

Tomorrow those value systems will be dead. Those things and ideas will be conservative backwash — racist, sexist, classist, etc. Tomorrow the recently admitted Class of 1998 will spurn the recently matriculated Class of 1997. They will call them exploitative, impervious to external thought.

We are all conservatives.

Buddha's spirit is felt

(continued from page 5)

us were creating a thing of pure beauty on the quad. It is not the actual shape of the figure that I am speaking of here. It is the devotion of its sculptors to put their inspiration into a form that will live on only in the minds of those who created it.

The sculpture was a symbol of worldly brotherhood and the essence of living life in the present. for Buddha will not be there forever — probably not even for another week. But he will live on in spirit, just as he always has, guiding his followers towards enlightenment.

What a man he must have been, to touch a group of college students halfway around the world, centuries after his demise. What a man he became that Sunday, sitting in front of Mead Chapel, gazing towards his home in the East.

MARK FELDMAN

Look Who's Graduated

If it pleases the court, the defense will now issue its opening statement.

A few months ago, I wrote a column using Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech. The speech ends with the words: "Free at last, free at last, thank God Almighty, we are free at last."

Friends, faculty and college students, a conflict of interest has arisen which needs to be resolved. You see, a funny thing happened during the Community Council meeting last Thursday which has prompted me to speak out and choose sides.

Apparently, the social houses just barely squeaked through a proposal that will give them the freedom to select their own members. The argument for the prosecution (administrators and faculty) is that selectivity violates the college's principle of inclusiveness. The judge, President John McCardell, has yet to vote yea or nay on the bill.

Now I don't know if anyone actually ever said this college embraces an all-inclusive policy but let me just state for the defense that inclusiveness is pretty much the biggest Country Crock of Crap I've ever heard in my life.

To begin, let us examine the college's own admissions policy which (of course) admits everyone regardless of anything. It's good to know we're paying top dollar to a school that doesn't discriminate against senseless idiots who come to our college for four years and spend the majority of their time drunk, throwing recycling bins full of glass bottles down Gene Swift's hallway. Luckily, our college takes everybody — geeks, jocks, alcoholics, bulimics, druggies and even a few smart kids who are desperately trying to make the social life around here somewhat tolerable.

Your Honor, I'm not knocking diversity. I'm really not. Of my three closest friends, only one of them is from New York or Massachusetts. But in reality (as opposed to the artificially-flavored, sealed-for-your-protection land of college life), selectivity is what makes this country great.

I like America. I like capitalism. Capitalism means that if you can provide a service that people need, you can earn money for your efforts and talents. Not everybody has the same talents. People with greater talent deserve greater rewards. The guy who invented the remote control is entitled to more money than a waiter at the local pizza joint. Even if the inventor is some kind of perverted

(continued on page 10)

Religions' quiet voices speak out to students

By Adrienne Yun

Religion is alive and well at Middlebury, but does anyone really care?

Okay, now that we have your attention, let's discuss an issue that has been used, recycled, reclaimed and sometimes thrown out. We are here to take the pulse of religious life at Middlebury College.

The following is a potpourri of personal opinions and words of experience from John Walsh, college chaplain, and four leaders of religious organizations here on campus in hopes of shedding some lights on an otherwise shadowy topic, and to find out if religion is indeed alive and well.

Drawing from the past eight years of his Middlebury experience, Walsh recognizes a lack of a religious foundation in the lives of Middlebury students.

"There is very little religious history or background," said Walsh of the student body. And those who have grown up with religion at home or in school? "Many [students who have religious backgrounds] have thrown the baby out with the bath water," said Walsh.

With a look of genuine regret, Walsh explains that many who once embraced a specific religion have discarded it or at least put it on hold as a result of a bad experience or a past difficulty with their church community.

"It is not that Middlebury students are anti-religious or antagonistic against religion," he added. "It is more of an indifference. No one goes out of the way to put you down, but some don't see the relevance [that religion] has in their lives."

Walsh elaborated on this point, explaining that college is a time when many students "throw everything out everything, and start from scratch."

Immediately, the question arises: is this a positive or a negative action? According to Walsh, it is positive: "If you left Middlebury the same person that you came here as, I would have to ask, 'Why did you come?'"

The aim of a liberal arts college, continued Walsh, is to present students with "ideas that make our world bigger."

That is why the Chaplain finds that juniors and seniors that had never set foot in chapel are suddenly appearing in the back pews on Sunday mornings. These upperclassmen are suddenly confronted with life decisions and difficulties that they can no longer put on the back-burner.

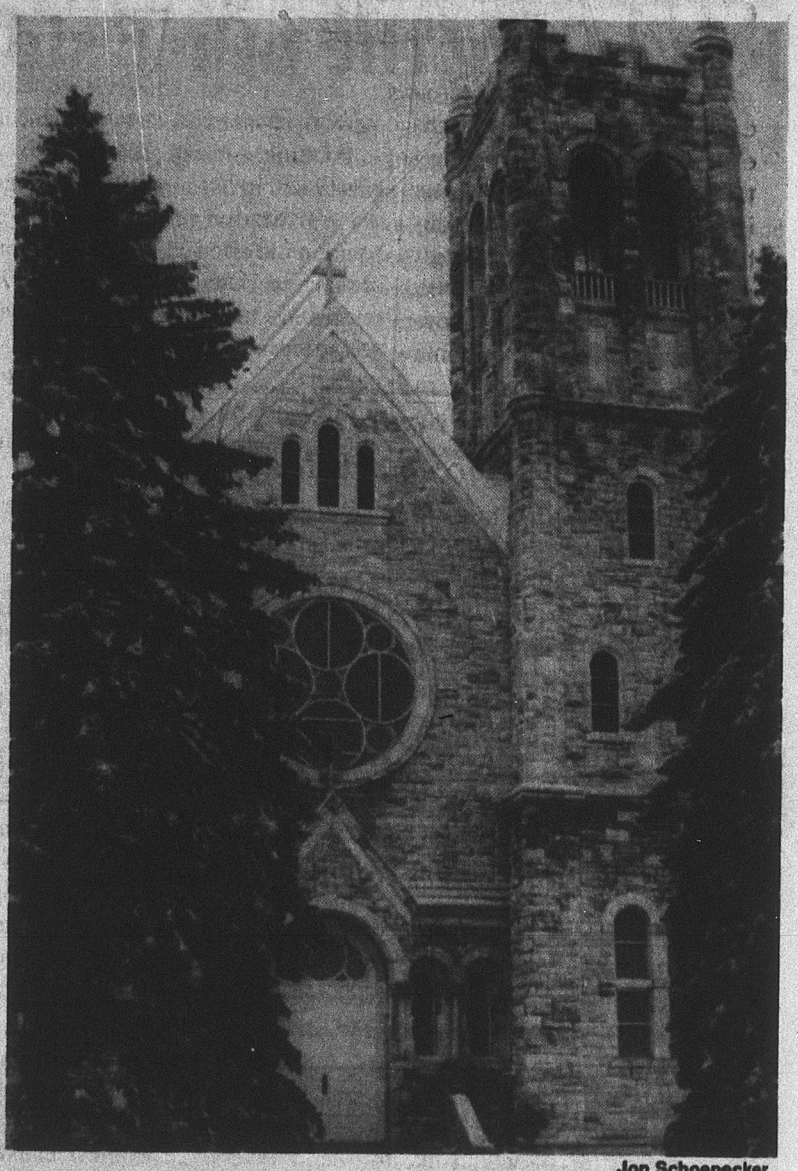
In addition, Walsh understands that most of what happens on campus is "non-traditional," and often challenging to a student's own personal beliefs.

He sees this as a struggle that can not only broaden the mind, but strengthen the personal faith of a student.

However, following the pattern of non-traditional thinking, some students trade in their childhood faith to develop a "personal faith" that is a coalescing of philosophy, traditional ideology and wisdom from their own experiences. Does learning new ideas with the aim of broadening one's horizons lead to a compromise of a personal faith? "I haven't compromised my faith one iota," Walsh said simply. "If a student finds his faith shattered, maybe his faith wasn't strong to begin with."

On a campus with such a wide variety of personal beliefs and convictions, where do religious groups fit in? "Groups on campus are a powerful symbol of religion. There is a vitality to them, for students can

(continued on page 12)



Jon Schoenecker

Only a small percentage of students attend religious services.

Regurgitation Man swallows his fish with pride

By Elizabeth Del Colliano

Regurgitation Man has been around the world. The man who sucked down billiard balls and butane gas in McCullough last Thursday has toured four times before in the U.S., as well as giving numerous performances in his native country of England. Growing up in an orphanage in Glasgow, young Stevie Starr realized at age four that he had a profound talent for swallowing coins — and then bringing them up again without any significant bodily harm.

Starr displayed his coin-swallowing skills along with a number of even more astounding feats for the loudly appreciative crowd. Flamboyantly strutting onto the stage in a blinding silver suit, he offered all the items he was to swallow to various members of the audience for inspection. Starr then proceeded to inhale a small light bulb and several coins, holding the microphone to his mouth so the crowd could hear the coins clink against each other in his stomach as he swallowed.

By this time, Regurgitation Man was in high gear, inciting the crowd with colorful chatter and wild body movement. It was amazing in itself that he could swallow the items he did — even more fantastic was the technique he employed. Starr did not really "swallow" in the true sense of the word. His throat acted as more of a high-intensity vacuum, stretching insanely for only a second as the billiard ball, or Rubik's cube, or the half-dollar coins went down with a whoop and slap on the chest. His bare chest went from flesh-colored to burning red after only the first few demonstrations.

Regurgitation Stevie did not limit his act to swallowing solids alone. At one point in the performance, he guzzled liquid soap, tilting his head back as he emptied an obscene amount of a Palmolive equivalent into his belly. Starr turned the audience, smiling as he commented, "Lemon! It's nice!" After gulping a full glass of water, and then a stomach jiggle or two, bubbles were floating out of his mouth — a Saturday morning cartoon come to life. Then the cartoon became a thing from Barnum and Bailey's as Starr sucked out the gas from a can of butane. The butane was real. To show that he was not holding it in his mouth, Starr exhaled on the flame of a lighter. Nothing happened. Starr then brought up some of the butane from his stomach and the flame erupted into a fireball that roared before disappearing.

Some of Starr's tricks transcended believability. Somehow this man was able to swallow dry sugar, drink a couple glasses of water, and then hack up the sugar in its dry state again. Then he swallowed Sandy Durst's '94 monster ring, a small lock and key, and managed to manipulate his stomach muscles so that the ring came back up affixed to the lock.

The unarguable show-stopper, however, moved away from the ingestion of inanimate objects. Two very alive and unsuspecting goldfish of not too small a size swam in the tank before Stevie Starr through-

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Matt Thomas

Starr swallowed a variety of objects during his performance.

Revealing the other side of Prigo

By Lisa Old

Profile: Professor Bob Prigo was born and raised in Laguna Beach, California. He obtained his undergraduate and graduate degrees in physics and physics education from the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) and went on to teach there for four years before coming to Middlebury College fourteen years ago.

He now lives in the town of Middlebury with his wife and two children.

Q: Why did you come to Middlebury?

Prigo: The main reason I chose Middlebury was because it is a small liberal arts college. At UCSB none of the different departments interacted with one another much; yet, I wanted to integrate physics with other creative areas of knowledge, such as the arts and humanities, in order to help students receive a truly liberal arts education.

Q: What do you enjoy most about teaching? What do you enjoy least?

P: Working with students on a one-to-one basis, especially when I am in a situation where something I said or did allowed the student to see a connection. This is the most rewarding part of teaching. I love seeing the individual "ah-ha's" take place.

My least favorite thing is evaluating students with grades. I do not feel they properly assesses students' abilities. I believe if classes were small enough professors could easily assess students as the course progressed simply by talking and interacting with them. Yet I realize this is impossible even for Middlebury.

Q: Today, what issues concern you the most?

P: On the domestic front I am a strong advocate of socialized medicine in which everybody, rich and poor, have equal access across the board.

Q: What is the best part about teaching at Middlebury? What is the hardest?

P: The best part is definitely working with the students in a close way, both majors and non-majors. The hardest part comes after being here for a long time. You are asked to be on various committees. Soon too many obligations begin piling up so I can't relax or hang around students as often or prepare for lectures during the day or do some of my own work. Now I have to do much of that in the evenings and on weekends. More demands come on you and there is no longer time in the day to work with the students as much as I would like.

Q: What do you do on the weekends?

P: Not much anymore. Lately, I come to work [mostly to Old Chapel], but in the past I used to do things with my family. I like to watch and play football, basketball and tennis. On Friday nights a collection of faculty go to one member's home for our weekly "pizza night". Of course the kids come along and it is such a close knit group of people that it is like one big family all getting together to share what's going on in our lives. It's social recreation.

Q: Have you taken or plan to take any trips?

P: This summer my family and I are traveling to California in a small camper. Along the way we will stop at friends' homes and finally meet up with family in California. It should take us two months.

Q: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

A: New Zealand to fish.

Q: If you were at a dinner party, who from history would you wish to be seated at your side?

P: On one side I would like Jacob Bronowski who wrote "Science and Human Values." On the other side I would like Madame Curie (who won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1911). I have always wondered what

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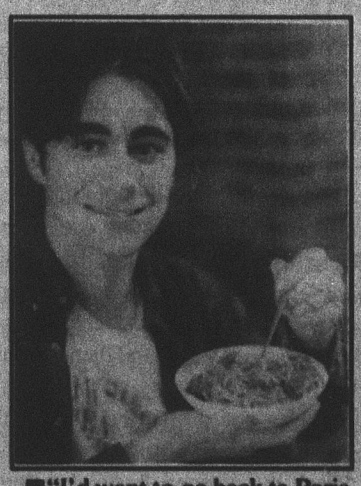
Matt Thomas

Bob Prigo livens up physics class with his unconventional methods.

CAMPUS VOICES

If you could go anywhere this spring break, where would you travel?



■"I'd want to go back to Paris because it's a phenomenal city. There's no other place like it."
—Matt Hazen '96.5

■"I'd go to Hawaii to try out the windsurfing there!"
—Shana Mitchell '94

■"I'd go to Kenya because I've never been and also it's not snowy there."
—Kyle Hirsch '96

■"I would travel to New Zealand - I have friends there I want to see."
—Kirsten Rogers '96

Compiled by Elizabeth Del Colliano
Photos by Tiffany Claflin

Feldman's Look Who's Graduated

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jerk and the waiter is a wonderfully caring, budding young comedy writer, the remote control guy still deserves cash by the truckload.

That's capitalism.

What's that have to do with selectivity? Nothing really, except to point out that not everybody is equal. Yes, we are all born with equal rights but not equal talents. Our Constitution grants us life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Nobody ever guaranteed us happiness per se — it's written down if you think I am mistaken.

This college is just as selective as any capitalist, money-making institution in America. Merrill Lynch and IBM are selective in their hiring policy because they want to make money. So does Middlebury College. By accepting intelligent kids, the college increases the chances that students will develop their minds, get hired at a prestigious company, make a buttload of money and then give back a nice chunk of it during those widely popular phone-a-thon events.

Is the student body diverse? Well, I could argue against that but for non-argument's sake, let's just say it is. Yes sir, this place is just budding with diversity: Jews, Blacks, Latinos, Indians and Eskimos a-plenty. Kudos to the admissions people. (Note: I loathe people who use the term kudos in sincerity and ask that it now be stricken from the record.)

My question to the faculty and administration is: what are social houses going to do that will be any different than the college or any company's admissions/hiring policy? So they're not basing their decisions on SAT scores. Their sole criteria is made up of (shudder) intangibles (i.e. immaterial stuff you can't physically touch like personality and most of the women around here).

Obviously, since they're students (i.e. not adults), college kids don't have the ability to be fair judges of character. Who knows what horribly unfair decisions they'll make? Heck, I wouldn't be a bit surprised if those nasty social house members stooped as low as to ask students whether their parents were in that social house and then accepted these "legend" students over more qualified and talented students.

Could you imagine an institution that actually considered where a person's parents went to college as a criterion of hiring?

Yes, I have a dream all right. I dreamed about a world with a little less hypocrisy and a little more common sense. I dreamed about a place where there was a little more harmony and a little less dichotomy. Then I woke up.

Honorable Judge McCardell, we, the students and alumni who represent truth, justice and freedom for all, await your decision. We humbly beseech you to do the right thing. The students are a long way from being free at last. Help them take one step closer.

The defense rests.

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New possibilities created with emergence of social houses

By Darcy Normand

Just as the social scene at Middlebury grew even grimmer, and the voices of students reverberated even louder on Friday night — "There's nothing to do!" — someone actually decided to do something to improve the situation.

Two students, Elizabeth Seeley '96 and Owen Brainard '96, each realized the benefits to starting additional social houses on campus, and made their ideas a reality. Both Seeley and Brainard have received approval from the Community Council to start new social houses at Middlebury.

Alpha Delta Phi (ADP), organized by Seeley, and Zeta Theta Phi (ZTP), the creation of Brainard and his friends, are well on their way to establishing a firm footing in both the college and town community. Both Seeley and Brainard have come to realize that organizing and executing plans for a social house are not easy feats. "I didn't have the time," explained Seeley, regarding her difficulties in organization. "There are so many meetings, so many things to be planning all the time."

"It was rough in the beginning," said Brainard, who submitted his proposal for ZTP to the Community Council in November. The application process begins with a proposal submitted to the Community Council explaining the purposes and goals of the new organization. Brainard said that the goal of ZTP is to be as diverse as possible. "We have people in almost every single sport, and we are ethnically diverse. When we appealed to the campus we wanted them to see it."

Catherine Herrick

Owen Brainard '96 and Elizabeth Seeley '96 helped create new additions to the Middlebury scene.

The process of application for approval continues with formal meetings, questions and ended for both Seeley and Brainard with approval of their social houses. "In the very beginning eight people pulled together and tried getting as many excited people from different groups. Forty three of us got together. We all founded it together," said Brainard of ZTP.

Both Seeley and Brainard agree that there are advantages to beginning a social house. Seeley was inducted this weekend into the national chapter of ADP.

She commented, "It is an amazing brotherhood, they would do anything for you." The Middlebury branch of ADP is one of the only two coed affiliations in the country.

Brainard said that one of the biggest benefits of his efforts is the close bonds he has made with the members in his social house. Brainard added that the social houses also benefit both college and community. "When we appealed to the campus we wanted them to see more than just the social aspect. We are dealing with the community 24 hours, seven days a week, all the time. Our social house is a good base for community service.

"Every Thursday and Friday members of our house volunteer at the teen center. We have conducted fund raisers." In the future Brainard wants to increase communication with faculty which will include panel discussions. "We want to let them know what we're about."

Both students were excited about their grants for houses but are still negotiating financial aspects at this time. Both are currently petitioning the SGA Finance Committee for funding.

ZTP may soon boast a membership of 43. "We kept it among sophomores, but are planning on having rush in the fall. [First-years] have shown a lot of interest." ZTP consists of 23 members with a potential for 20 pledges this spring and, although both houses are overwhelmed by student interest, each is proud of their accomplishments.

Singing the graduate school blues

By Gene Swift

I now know how Charlie Brown feels on St. Valentine's Day. I have been going to the mailroom at least three times each day with the hope of discovering mail in my box. Not those brown, inter-office things — they simply mean more responsibilities and meetings I need to attend. Frankly, I can do without the credit-card offers and Miscellaneous Account bills, and if you were considering sending me a chain-letter, don't bother. The mail I'm seeking is quite specific.

Return address: Los Angeles, or even New York — either would be a wondrous sight in the shadowy grey tunnel that is MC Box 3659. University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), the American Film Institute (AFI) or New York University's (NYU) Tisch School of the Arts — it makes no difference to me; all I want is to know what I am doing with my life (the slice looming directly over Graduation Ridge, i.e. 1994-95).

Here's the problem: I want to get a Master of Fine Arts in screenwriting from one of the aforementioned schools, but I really doubt my chances of getting accepted. People in high places actually told me not to apply because my chances are so slight. Let's face it, John Lennon was "The Walrus;" I am "The Reacher." Then, of course, there's the question of money: namely, I have none, and thanks to Middlebury, neither does my family.

"Why do I bother?" I often ask myself while staring into the mailroom office through my miniature wind-tunnel. UCLA has had my stuff since Dec. 1, 1993. Translation: almost a year before I would attend a single class. AFI wanted their package in January, and NYU was nice enough to extend to Feb. 15. Of course, I had everything ready well in advance of their deadlines. I just paid through the nose for various kinds of overnight mail because I like the fancy stickers they put on my packages.

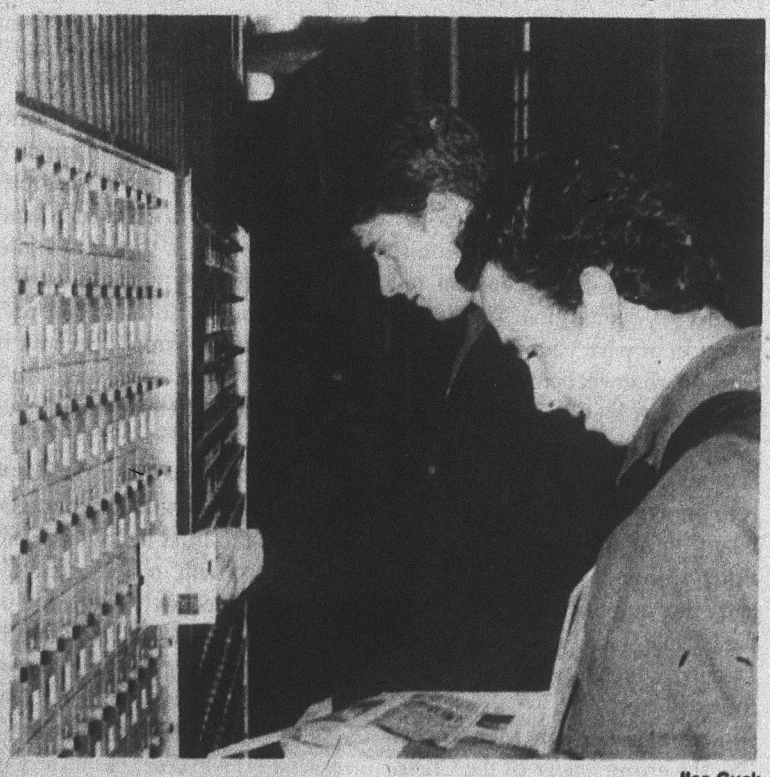
One of the worst things about my particular graduate-application situation has been telling others about the schools to which I've applied, because they're all acronyms. When my parents called and asked me about my plans last fall, I replied, "Well, I'm applying to UCLA, AFI, and NYU, and I was going to apply to USC, but they need the GREs, so I would need to take those ASAP." Of course, I didn't, so USC went out the window (that's right, procrastination can shape your future).

The packages were similar: application, application fee, recommendations, resume and a "creative portfolio": my feature-length retelling of Dante Alighieri's "Divine Comedy." The frustrating thing about this is that not only did I shell out $50-$100 for the application fee, but three copies of my proudest accomplishment are floating around somewhere, far from their home on my bookshelf.

I'm not worried about someone stealing my ideas (the screenplay is registered with the Writers Guild of America) but rather the soda cans, cigarette ashes, and greasy fingers which are dirtying its cover and pages. If I wait much longer to hear from these schools, my desire to know "yes or no" will turn quickly to a desire to see my screenplay safely on its shelf once again.

Today is St. Patrick's Day, my twenty-second birthday, and I still have not heard a peep from those ivory towers of LA or NY. If Fortune wishes to dump me from her wheel, that's fine ... just let me know ahead of time so I can pick a soft spot on which to land.

For now, I remain completely clueless as to whether I'll be in school in September, working here as an RHA (I'm waiting to hear about that, too ...) or slipping someone's mail into their box at Warner Brothers. All I need at this point is for someone to slip some mail into mine.



Ilse Guck

Many students are anxiously awaiting graduate school responses.

Prigo enjoys students and physics

(continued from page 10)

it would be like to be a woman in a male-dominated profession. However, Einstein wouldn't be bad either.

Q: Who has most inspired you in your lifetime?

P: My mother is definitely at the top of the list. After my father was killed in a car accident when I was five she had to raise three children by herself, and she did it well. My high school math teacher and tennis and basketball coach, Art Whal, also inspired me. He was the first to get me really interested in math. But I also admired him because he was fair — fair to everyone and always let all the boys play equal time. Doug Scalapino, a physics professor of mine at UCSB, took me under his wing and helped me greatly with my future plans. He helped me get my job at Middlebury. Finally, Bob Brandts, an English professor at UCSB and still a close friend, taught me how to write well and how important it is to doubt.

Q: If you could go back in history, where would you go?

P: Back to the 60s. Nothing else said.

Q: What's the most memorable class you have ever had?

P: It was a silly incident ten years ago. I was doing an experiment with a glass beaker when I accidentally knocked it over. It began rolling off the side, and I knew my only hope was to run around the table and catch it. As I ran around I could see it falling, so I took a gigantic leap, like baseball players do, and caught it in mid-flight. I arose from the floor to a standing ovation from the class. I guess deep down I always wanted to be a professional baseball player.

Q: If you could give one piece of advice to students, what would it be?

P: I would encourage students not to specialize too much. Take advantage of the liberal arts education and use it to its fullest. It will pay off in the end in a healthier and happier intellectual life.

Religions are hidden from view

(continued from page 9)

find a solid place to stand." said Walsh. Islamic Society, Newman, Hillel, Christian Fellowship. The list goes on, but many religious groups on campus are neither seen nor heard. They are the silent minority, groups that meet regularly to share, support and encourage one another.

Rezwan Sharif '95 is co-president of the Islamic society, one of its forty registered members, and only ten of the participants of the society's practicing Muslims. Sharif feels many of frustrations about being a Muslim at Middlebury. He finds that the Islamic society suffers from the stereotypes that America places on the Muslim people. Two words, fundamentalism and terrorism, epitomize those stereotypes.

Sharif said that Islam is and was intended to be a peaceful religion. He sees a grave misunderstanding of the Muslim religion on and off campus that has developed out of media coverage of terrorist bombings and other activities that are linked to Islam. Sharif thinks that since the Muslim group is small and is not looked upon highly, it is difficult to pool resources and reach out to the campus.

On a more personal note, Sharif admitted that maintaining personal convictions on campus is difficult, saying, "There is no constant reminder of your religion. There is no reminder of what your religion dictates. So whatever comes out, comes from you. A lot of it is discipline." As far as the Islamic Society on campus is concerned, Sharif's aim is to present the "lighter aspects of Islam" through weekly lunches on Fridays, dinner meetings, movies and other activities. On March 11, the Islamic Society celebrated *Eid-Ul-Fitr*, which marks the end of Ramadan.

I next spoke with John Turner '96, the group leader of the Christian Fellowship, an organization with more than one hundred registered members. Once again, there are fewer (about forty) active participants. Turner voiced similar concerns about the problems with being a stereotyped as a "minority group" on campus.

"There is a big misconception about Christian Fellowship, that it is a big group of conservative, right-wingers who want to set themselves apart from the rest of the campus," said Turner. "I think that we have a diverse group of different kinds of people, who hold different beliefs on 'controversial issues,' but who are held together by our Christian faith. We try to be a place where people who are curious or interested in learning about God or who are thinking about faith can find support from people who are going through the same thing.

"A lot of people have had negative religious experiences when they were growing up and a lot of people get turned off," continued Turner, echoing Walsh's comments. However, Turner emphasized the importance of forming strong personal beliefs. "Growing up in America, we're pretty ignorant of religions other than Christianity," said Turner, reinforcing the importance of gaining knowledge of other religions through a liberal arts education. "But I think that this atmosphere of thought might encourage someone not to form strong personal beliefs — simply because if everything is the same, there isn't much incentive to believe in something."

Turner believes that in our skeptical society which encourages people not to trust in anything but themselves, faith in God offers security and freedom. "The world of today is hostile to religion and is more than willing to prove someone wrong — intellectually and socially, and I think that it can be very hard if you don't have a strong faith to be able to withstand the intellectual arguments of someone who has a Ph.D."

Michelle Parchesky '94, president of Newman, the Catholic group on campus, agreed with Chaplain Walsh about the trend of indifference towards religion. Parchesky believes that apathy develops from two sources.

The first is from a situation in which the student has never practiced religion or whose family has no strong religious ties. In a sense, she admits, this is not apathy, but just ignorance.

The second source of apathy is rooted in the quintessential aim of all college students: to discover who they are and what role they play in society.

"College is just a time to be your own person, to figure your life out," said Parchesky. For many, breaking the boundaries of family and tradition are often a step in this process of self-discovery. However, Parchesky says that another step is asking questions such as, "Do I believe in God?" or "Is religion real?" which help students figure out things for themselves. She remembers a time during her first year at Middlebury when she began to question her Catholic upbringing and her honesty in practicing her religion. This period of searching was a positive experience for Parchesky, as it confirmed that her faith was real.

> ***"There are three types of students at Middlebury," Parchesky added, "Those who are quite religious, those who have never practiced religion and see in it no real relevance to life, and those who have practiced religion before but no longer keep it a part of their life."***

It is a general consensus among religious groups at Middlebury that attracting new members is like pulling teeth. Sunday afternoon mass sponsored by Newman usually enjoys a congregation of 20-25 students. However, the group that plans most of the activities numbers between 5 and 7, which places a great burden of responsibility upon the few leaders. Another problem, Parchesky adds, is the absence of visible leadership, since the supporting priest is rarely on campus.

"There are three types of students at Middlebury," Parchesky added, "Those who are quite religious, those who have never practiced religion and see in it no real relevance to life, and those who have practiced religion before but no longer keep it a part of their life."

Parchesky confessed that it is difficult to practice her faith on campus, as there is nothing to keep her accountable: "It takes work to practice a religion at Middlebury. So much that is going on is non-religiously affiliated. [Religion] doesn't take a prominent role. Groups such as SGA and MCAB are more influential and have a more profound effect on students."

In spite of this, Newman is a place "where people of the Catholic belief can share and grow in faith, as well as a community where people can center on a religious aspect of life," concluded Parchesky.

"I believe that there is one higher power. Different religions are just different means of addressing it," said Adam Gilden '94, co-president of Hillel, the Jewish organization at Middlebury. "There are different levels of Judaism: Orthodox, Conservative and Reformed. A majority of the Jews in America now are conservative or reformed. Jews today are the most assimilated Jews in the history of the world." Listening to Gilden, one can sense a mixture of pride in a rich cultural heritage and a resentment towards the constraints of this heritage.

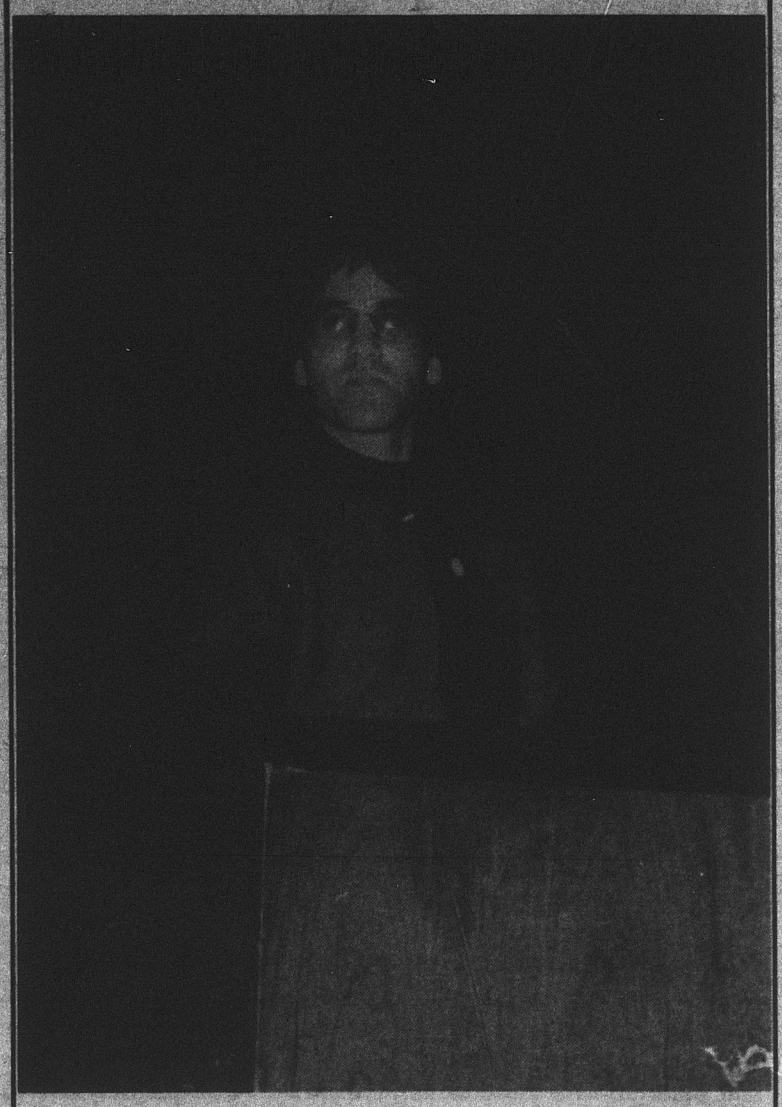
The Jewish students at Middlebury are not very religious, according to Gilden. "Religion is potentially constraining. It's very restrictive. There are so many things that orthodox Jews cannot do. They live their lives in a regimented way. And if you deviate from the laws, you're not considered religious," Gilden says.

However, Gilden feels that his college experience, especially acting as co-president of Hillel, has had a positive effect on his faith. Gilden's comments echo the previous comments by Aaron Mendelsohn's letter in last week's *Campus* which read, "I always took it for granted at home. Judaism starts with the family."

For many Jewish students, Hillel serves the purpose of a home where they can make friends with others that share the same background. Hillel sponsors a series of speakers who approach issues of Judaism from an academic perspective.

Religion is archaic, irrelevant to life, constraining to the broad aims of a liberal arts education, burdensome ... these are some of the negative claims that are both spoken and inferred from those on a college campus. "It's just not cool to be associated with a religious group," admits one Middlebury student. In spite of this, there are still students on campus that embrace religion and the unity that they share with those of the same faith.

Male mystique explained to students



Alex Grossman

Jay Friedman explained gender relations and the "male mystique" to students, using slides to facilitate his discussion.

Starr excites stomach

(continued from page 9)

out his performance. He joked about them, threatening to make certain people in the audience, notably Emily Aikenhead '95, to enjoy his gilled friends. Yet Starr was the only one who did any fish swallowing. "Do you want them dead? Do you want them alive? Which way do you want them to lay when they come back up?"

Regurgitation Man drank up the fish one by one, letting their tails wave around through his half opened mouth for the pleasure of the audience. Then they were gone, into the depths of Stevie Starr's amazing stomach. When he brought them up with a whoop and a smack, they were as healthy as when he scooped them out of the tank. It seemed that his iron-clad insides could just about accomplish anything, from manipulating locks to acting as a sort of fishbowl.

Stevie Starr easily made the weird and unusual into the highly enjoyable, never losing the comedic touch that made his string of tricks into a performance. This entertainer's last name is well deserved for gulping down everything that everybody knows should not be inside of a regular human body.

Celebrate Your Connection With The Earth Contribute To:

The Otter Creek Journal

This Spring's issue will focus on the Environmental Community at Middlebury College. However, the publication will not be limited to this topic. Please express your own personal connection with the earth through works of art, photography, poetry or prose.

Submit To Box 2155 by: April 4th

From 'Garp' to 'Circus,' John Irving continues to enthrall

Catherine Herrick

John Irving treats Middlebury to a glimpse of his newest work.

By Jen Kuli

The audience heaved a collective sigh of admiration as the dashing figure of John Irving stepped onto the stage of Mead Chapel. He approached the podium with a calm poise that only years of speaking in front of crowds can produce. He sipped his glass of water slowly and turned the microphone towards himself. Without a smile he glanced up furtively and opened his mouth to finally break the impatient silence: "I have a message for Brian Cohen: at the end of the reading you should meet Mrs. Pack. She has a message for you.

After the tension-relieving laughter of the audience had subsided, Irving, who was introduced by Robert Pack as the "Charles Dickens of our time," brought out the manuscript of his newest novel and began the story of its creation. The necessary background information about "A Son of the Circus" includes a dedication to Irving's "good friend" Salmon Rushdie. Irving made light of the content of his own novel after reminding the crowd of the circumstances surrounding "Satanic Verses" — the expositional work that resulted in Rushdie's exile.

Among the facts that he chose to divulge was that "not one of the people resonsible for banning the book, including the Ayatollah, read it. Not one." He revealed the irony of the situation — that a self-serving journalist somehow obtained the book before publication and decided to preview it publicly. To Irving it is wrong that the actions of one person could ruin so fully the life of another. "If there is a hell for reviewers and journalists — and it would have to be a very big place — I sincerely hope that she is there," Irving stated with a dry grin.

"There is nothing blasphemous in my book," he stated outright, dispelling any comparison to Rushdie's controversial work. "The only religion that might take offense is Christianity, and for several centuries Christianity has not been known for death threats."

Before beginning the reading, Irving offered a brief explanation. "There are twenty seven chapters in my book, and each one is titled. I like titles. I will be reading from the first chapter: 'The Chrome on the Ceiling Fan.' There are several threads within the chapter that are left untied. Number one: what happens to the dwarf who won't give blood to the doctor? Number two: what is the upsetting news that the doctor has for the actor but doesn't get to tell in chapter one? Finally, there is a body. Did it die of natural causes or was it murder?"

The audience thus prepared, Irving began to read a story — his story, which no member of the general public has ever heard. As soon as the words were lifted from the page by the voice of the one man who truly knows how they are meant to be read, the audience was able to sit back and enjoy the phrases of this master of prose.

The novel begins with a description of acondroplastic dwarves in India. The dwarves that he features as main characters are members of the "New Nile Circus". This is not the first time that Irving has used circuses or dwarves in his work, and one might wonder at the significance of these elements in the author's life.

"Why dwarves?" A wide-eyed fan queried at the reception following the reading. "Why aliens or dragons?" Irving answered with a grin. "They're strange. They grab people's attention. They work."

"A Son of the Circus" has much more to offer than acondroplasia and acrobatics. True to Irving's singular style, several social issues are woven into the anecdotes and striking images. The main character travels continually between Bombay and Toronto. He was born in India, but lived most of his life in Canada, and as a result feels ill-at-ease in both countries. He cannot decide between the "cold, uncomfortable Canada, or the India he only pretends to be comfortable in." This feeling of displacement is an issue with which thousands of immigrants and expatriates must deal. Irving describes the situation with a tone of ironic humor, but it is obvious that he is sympathetic to the character's dilemma.

Irving's depiction of women is one to which no feminist could take offense. This is not to say that the author rails against the inequality of Indian women — he merely describes them as he sees them. There is no pretension of a clear understanding of womankind. He does not have to try to assert his manliness; he can simply love women and laugh at them, all the while laughing at himself loving them.

His acute observation of human action and reaction lead the reader to a psychological understanding which necessitates no further explanation. Irving presents a moving picture and leaves it to the viewer to understand his intention.

The audience was further endeared to the novel by the author's use of lengthy tangents. He takes an enormous amount of time with each image, allowing first thoughts to inspire others as the story weaves slowly along its path. This technique has the potential to result in laggard, creeping action. However, the author suffuses the prose with so many active details that the crowd was left slack-jawed in concentration, trying desperately to keep up and digest the words. As a result, it does not matter that the audience never learned why the dwarf refused to donate his blood, or what the doctor had to tell the actor, or whether or not the body was a victim of nature or homicide.

John Irving is an extremely talented, successful writer, but there is no magic in his words. They are merely phrases and observation. It is the author's organization of thoughts and pictures that makes his work remarkable. It is the use of repetition and order — of silent, unobtrusive wit, that makes John Irving's work so extraordinary.

Movie Review

Daniel Day-Lewis delivers emotion

By Lewis Robinson

Heads up; not all of Hollywood can be dismissed as scam. We are not that easily off the hook. Sure, we can give ourselves a break once in a while and blast holes through easy targets like "Total Recall" or "Fried Green Tomatoes." But what do we really have to say about the artistic endeavor that dominates our time? Behind the heavy veils of commercialism and instantly gratifying schlock, we should be honest with ourselves and admit that there are rare glimmers of brilliance in present-day Hollywood films.

Gratuitous violence and gut-gunning sentimentality do not reign supreme in Jim Sheridan's latest film, "In the Name of the Father," and yet it still fascinates and excites. The film relies on the finer elements of style to captivate audiences.

It tells the true story of Gerry Conlon (played tremendously by Daniel Day-Lewis), a petty thief from Belfast who is wrongfully accused of a 1974 I.R.A. pub bombing in Guilford, England. Conlon, along with three other scrappy drifters, spent almost fifteen years in jail for the bombing after having been tortured into false confessions.

Under enormous pressure to find the bombers, the police arrested hundreds. (The 1974 Prevention of Terrorism Act allowed authorities to keep suspects for up to seven days without filing formal charges.) Conlon and his young, contemptuous, Irish Catholic buddies presented the easiest conviction opportunities.

The film is set in a remarkable, emotionally charged context, and yet Sheridan makes sure that the greater part of the film is to be found in the depths of its characters. In prison, Conlon develops from naive punk to decisively angry rebel, a progression made evident in his relationship with his father Giuseppe (played by the stoic yet powerful Pete Postlethwaite). The development is charted without overt self-exclamations; we watch Conlon find justice by coming to know himself, and then by acting on this discovery. Sheridan is careful in his representation of "prison time" — once Conlon is finally freed, it doesn't feel as though the fifteen years he spent were glossed over. Day-Lewis gives us a sense of the enormity of Conlon's suffering.

While other films may give reason for easy celebration, "In the Name of the Father" is more complex, offering only partial retribution; after all, the hero has unduly suffered. His release offers a certain satisfaction, but Day-Lewis never lets us forget that the damage caused by fifteen years in jail is not something from which one recovers easily.

Unfortunately for Day-Lewis, Postlethwaite, Sheridan and Emma Thompson (who was also nominated for her brief role as Conlon's attorney), "In the Name of the Father" is in a field full of Oscar heavyweights this year. "Schindler's List" should feel confident enough to come to the awards ceremony with a wheelbarrow — and its honors will be justly deserved. Justice, however, is not only found at the Academy Awards. The actors and director of this great film should feel proud of the fact that they haven't made yet another mindless Hollywood mess.

Courtesy photo

Conlon (Daniel Day-Lewis) is forced to make a false confession in "In the Name of the Father."

Greenwood's Groove

DAN GREENWOOD

The culture of Trinidad is an amalgamation of different influences, including Spanish and British colonialism, the slave culture with its elements of colonial and West African societies and the Asian culture that was brought by East Indian and Chinese immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century. The popular music of Trinidad and nearby Tobago developed from traditions stemming from their formative cultures as well as restrictions imposed on the people by the British government in the nineteenth century.

When African drums made of calabash were forbidden by the British due to the role they had played in the organization of slave uprisings, the ex-slaves had to look for other, cheap instruments. Oil was discovered in Trinidad in 1907, and the discarded barrels provided a new sound which was soon harnessed and tuned. Calypso and steel band music resulted, combining the new steel drums, traditional melodies and rhythms, and the American jazz that was popular at the time.

A young man named Aldwyn Roberts was first employed as a musician in 1937, near the end of calypso's developmental period, to entertain workers. His music attracted enough attention to enable him to perform in the island's social areas, such as New Town and Port of Spain. An impressed elder calypso star, Growling Tiger, dubbed Roberts with mock title of Lord Kitchener. It was under that name that Roberts, along with several other younger generation calypso players, formed the Young Brigade. They created a more danceable style and had ambitions of becoming recording stars. The energy and novelty (to English and American ears) of the music attracted several record labels, but despite calypso's growing international popularity, Lord Kitchener remained fairly obscure.

Leaving Trinidad in 1947, Lord Kitchener passed through Aruba, Curacao and Jamaica, absorbing sounds from each place, en route to England. By 1950 he had begun cutting records on British labels, mixing his traditional calypso sounds with a more accessible jazz feel. He also began to write more socially conscious lyrics. Possibly inspired by the popularity of his music in West Africa, he was among the first to express the popular perception linking African and Caribbean culture in songs such as "Africa My Home."

His performances in London's nightclubs got him a major deal with RCA. In 1962, finding he could live off his royalties, Kitchener returned to the newly independent Trinidad and Tobago.

Klassic Kitchener Volume 1 collects some of Kitchener's most important songs from the late forties through the mid sixties. The wide variety of songs range from the somber and socially aware complaint "When A Man is Poor," to the samba-flavored sexual allegory "Dr. Kitch." "Nora," one of his biggest early hits in the U.K., has a lively steel-band beat and lyrics that sing of Kitch's homesickness for Trinidad after a few years in England. "Cricket Champions," from 1964, celebrates his homeland's independence by lauding Trinidad's sporting talent. The true spirit of Kitchener's music is caught in "Steel Band Music," with its infectious melody and description of steel band's appeal: "Like a symphony orchestra in the atmosphere/ And as it fades out gradually/ The music remains in your memory."

Although the music on *Klassic Kitchener* may be a bit commercial when compared to recent Caribbean exports like the Jolly Boys, the origins of many contemporary Western music styles can be heard in his songs. Mento, ska and reggae strains can be felt throughout Kitchener's recordings, as well as many of the rhythmic speech patterns that have been popularized recently in hip-hop and dancehall. But influence aside, it is strong music in itself, original and innovative and, above all, lots of fun.

Movie fan fantasizes ideal Oscar

By Brian Perry

It's that time of year again, and for all the big film critics like Siskel and Ebert, it's an extremely exciting period. The movies have been screened, the nominations have been made and the bonus paychecks for their big "We Pick the Oscars" specials are as good as in the mail.

That's right, it's time once again for the Academy Awards, though in actuality the 1993 awards ceremony only ended two months ago when Gus Aperture of Hollywood, Florida received his statuette in the category "Best Best Boy in a Feature Film Starring Tom Cruise and a Man Who is the Spokesperson for a Grain Product." The film, of course, was "The Firm," the spokesperson was Wilford Brimley, and the guy on the oats package is a Quaker.

Every critic hates the Oscars, but what's new — critics hate everything. The Oscars are a bunch of garbage, they say, because the Academy of Film Arts and Sciences is filled to the brim with crusty old rich white men who wouldn't know a good film if it snuck up behind them and repeatedly screamed "I'm a good film!" in their collective Miracle Ear.

That's why films like "Home Alone" win seven Oscars, including "Most Adorable-n-Sadistic Child Prima Donna in a Feature Film" and movies like the critically acclaimed "Barton Fink" are spindled, folded and mutilated, year after year, like some kind of annual exposition in bad taste.

Well, maybe the critics have a point, but aside from complaining, what have they done about it? Nothing, nada, zilch, absolute zero. Until now, that is. This critic, for one, has decided to take microprocessor in lap and change the course of Academy Awards history forever. I'm making an appeal to reason and common sense — New Categories, New Ceremonies, New Statues and, what the heck, New Everything. Gentlepersons, the envelopes please.

As it stands, the roster of Oscar awards available for any sub-standard film, actor or key grip is bloated and, frankly, ridiculous. Practically everyone in Hollywood has won at least three each, and the others are just waiting to become costume designers and cheesy balladeers. My first step would be to cut the number of awards way down to somewhere near one. That's right, just one Academy Award: Best Picture.

There would be no nominees — every film made that year is up to win. Who knows — the competition for that one award might actually push up the base level of quality in American movies. Imagine the zillions of dollars you could make by advertising, "We won the ONLY Oscar of 1994." Exclusivity breeds worth, and that statue would be a gold mine.

You may ask, "But what about all the other great performances? Don't they deserve recognition?" Well, if one film can succeed at putting together the best director, actors, writers, cinematographers, makeup artists, musicians, set designers, pet handlers, bottled water holders and coffee truck drivers, then it deserves all the glory possible, and a golden statue to boot. The only other rule in this collection of absolutes is this: if no film in a given year lives up to the newfound Oscar ideal, then NO ONE WINS.

With only one Oscar at stake, the newly bearable awards ceremony would be full of focused expectation. Because a film of any size could be the lucky winner, the big execs would have to rub elbows with the small independents, and vice versa. It would be a film Mecca. The entire televised portion would only be a mere half-hour long, minus big bucks commercial time. No more six-hour marathon, no more hosts nodding off because it's past their bedtime, and definitely no more "I'd like to list every single person who made this moment possible in reverse alphabetical order ... twice" acceptance speeches. In a word, brevity.

From now on, the Oscar itself would be life-size, like those ones that flank the stage in the post-show press conferences. After the presentation, it could be sawed into pieces, and each person who was involved in the film would get a labeled piece — maybe the director could have the head.

Well, this is my plan for the new and improved Oscars. Simple? Yes. A flight of fancy? Perhaps. But think of it as you're watching Gus Aperture of Hollywood, Fla. take home his ninth career Oscar at four in the morning, Pacific time, in the category of "Best Extra in a Film Grossing No Less than Two Hundred Million Dollars Starring Anyone Who is Not as Vertically Challenged as Michael J. Fox but not From Canada." Certain ideas, repeated often enough into certain Miracle Ears, just might start to make some sense.

Movie Review

'The Piano' depicts sexual power

By Scott DeVries

Imagine the following plot line: A Scottish mother is sent as a mail-order bride to a British gentleman in the mid 1800s. Add to this plot two actors and an actress that aren't exactly your typical glamorous Hollywood types, title it "The Piano," and create a love triangle. I found myself asking, how could such a movie have possibly been nominated for the Oscars?

Director Jane Campion, that's how.

As director and screenwriter of "The Piano," Campion unwinds a story of the drama between Ada, Stewart and Baines — three people caught up in a triangle of love, sensuality, lust and sex in a lush, semi-tropical New Zealand locale that could be likened to Vermont during mud season. Holly Hunter plays Ada, the mail-order bride who hasn't spoken a word since she was six for reasons that no one, including herself, can understand. Her daughter Flora, played by talented Anna Paquin (up for Best Supporting Actress for this role), is the main vessel through which Ada can communicate with others. She is the only one that is able to understand her mother's creative sign language.

When seated at the piano, Ada can truly communicate. Many scenes of the movie are dedicated to Ada's emotionally expressive style, allowing the viewer to understand the struggles that are taking place within Ada's soul.

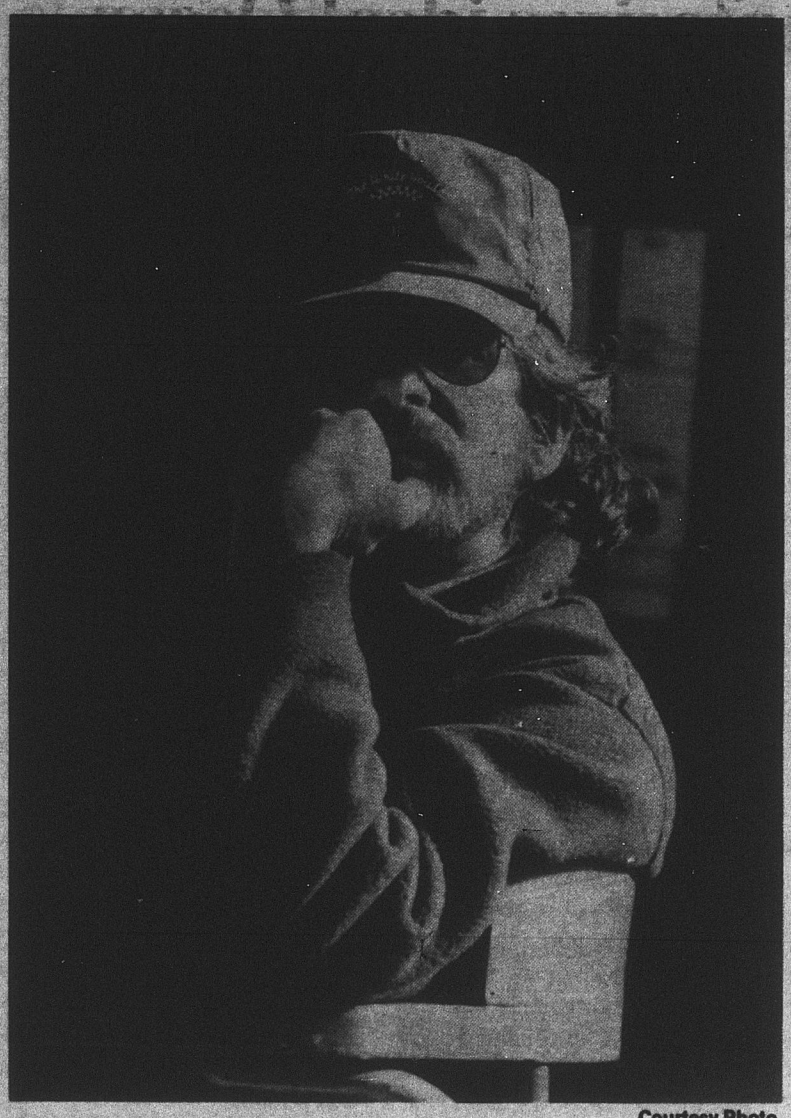
Sam Neill plays Ada's husband, Stewart, who tries to retain his position of English gentry in the primal setting of the New Zealand forest. His partner, George Baines (Harvey Keitel), balances the movie with his embrace of the cultures and traditions of the surrounding native tribe, the Maori. He is tattooed and learns to speak their language, serving as Stewart's translator in deals to try to buy their land.

Baines sets the sexual plot of the movie in motion after hearing Ada play the piano on the beach. He offers Stewart a piece of land for Ada's piano which has been left on the beach due to its size and the inconvenience it would have caused to transport. Stewart accepts the land, turning the piano, and unknowingly his wife, over to Baines. Hunter gives a stunning silent portrayal of Ada's response to the news that her piano is not only in the hands of a stranger, but that she is required to teach him how to play it. She stomps around the room, shattering glasses while her eyes seethe and her frame shakes with anger.

Baines' desires for the piano go much farther than simple instruction. At their first "lesson," he strikes a deal with Ada that she can have the piano back, key by key, in exchange for sexual favors, from watching and touching Ada while she is playing to lying with her when they are both naked. Ada agrees to the deal, willing to do anything to get the piano back. She responds to Baines' advances rather stiffly, almost repulsed by the idea of sex. Several keys later, Baines develops a love for Ada and, in disgust with his prostitution of her, gives the piano back, releasing her from sexual exploitation.

It is here that Campion throws in a twist. Ada returns again and again to Baines, filled now with a love and desire for the man that had recently bought her affection. Rejecting both the piano that is now in her possession and the advances of

(Continued on page 16)



Courtesy Photo

Steven Spielberg, pictured here on the set of "Schindler's List," served as both director and producer of the film. This masterpiece may finally win the popular filmmaker an Oscar for best director.

Jester predicts Academy Awards

By Gene Swift

Each year, hundreds of our favorite Hollywood stars sit in eager anticipation to stroke and fondle a small golden man, then take him home with them later that evening. Yes, I know. I'm sick and twisted, but all the good introductions to Oscar Awards articles have already been taken by the real entertainment magazines.

I've decided to devote this article to the first ever Swift's Oscar Picks; after all, I've been known to predict these things before, so why not get it in print to prove my cinematic intuition? (Because you might be completely wrong, Gene, and now everyone will know ...) Of course, I'll dwell on the major awards — the ones everyone waits for all evening long. You may, of course, want to find your copy of the most recent *Viewfinder* to use the back cover's list of nominations as a reference.

For Best Picture, I predict "Schindler's List" will grab the Oscar. "Schindler's" will also net Steven Spielberg his first Best Director award; the feelings of professional jealousy which kept "The Color Purple" from winning aren't strong enough to counter the impact of this film. I was quite happy to see "The Fugitive" among the nominees for Best Picture, because it is my strong opinion that the genre of a movie should not decide its quality. Frankly, I would love to see a good buddy-flick take the Oscar in this category. Show me someone who would argue against "Butch & Sundance" being among the all-time great films, and I'll show you someone who has seen too many Merchant/Ivory productions.

Best Actor will go to Tom Hanks for "Philadelphia," almost as a consolation prize for the film which was supposed to give "Schindler's" a run for its money. The Best Supporting Actor award will either go to Ralph Fiennes (pronounced "Rafe Fines") for his performance as Amon Goeth in "Schindler's List," or to Tommy Lee Jones for "The Fugitive." Granted, there are some major differences between both of these actors and the characters they played, but hey, these are my picks, don't ask me to explain .

Holly Hunter and Emma Thompson, nominated for both actress awards, will share the glory: Hunter will win the Best Actress award for her performance in "The Piano," and Thompson will get her second Oscar for Supporting Actress in "In the Name of the Father."

Best (Original) Screenplay will go to Jane Campion for "The Piano," although this brilliant writer/director and her film deserve far more. Although I loved "Dave," I can't see how anyone could have nominated it for Best Original anything after seeing "Moon Over Parador" with Richard Dreyfus and Raul Julia. (I saw so many similarities that I started seeing Raul Julia in Frank Langella's performance.)

"Schindler's List" looks like a strong contender for Best (Adapted) Screenplay, but "In the Name of the Father" and "The Remains of the Day" might win in this category.

Best Visual Effects will go to "Jurassic Park", although Tim Burton's "Nightmare Before Christmas" excelled in this category. Perhaps the professional jealousy will keep this second Spielberg production from winning.

Again, these are my predictions for what the academy will chose; my personal opinions may differ slightly, and perhaps I will look back on them after the Oscar Awards in a future issue of *The Campus*. This thought should stay with you when you watch the awards and I prove to be completely wrong.

NPR's Bob Mondello airs his views

By Mike Liss

Bob Mondello, the film critic for National Public Radio (NPR) and theater critic for Washington's weekly *City Paper*, sits in an NPR editing booth. "The moment that I realized theater was cool, I was in tenth grade," he says in his distinctive radio voice. "There was this announcement over the loud speaker, 'Would Bobby Mondello please come down to the front office.' And I went downstairs and my mother's looking very somber and the secretary says, 'You're going home now.'

"So I walked out with my mother, and I got in the car, and I said 'Is everything okay?' And she said," here Mondello takes a beat. "'Your father couldn't go to the matinee of Oliver, so I'm going to take you instead.' I thought, this is great, you can get out of school for this."

That moment marked the beginning of Mondello's long path to his current position. After writing film reviews for his college paper, Mondello worked for eleven years in the advertising business, doing promotions for a cinema chain. All along he was writing theater criticism for "all these little papers that would die almost as soon as I started writing for them," but his experience at those papers led him to the local public radio station outside of Washington, where he lived.

Now Mondello finds himself juggling his criticism in three different mediums — in addition to his film reviews on the radio and theater reviews and columns in *City Paper*, he participates in a round table on the local PBS affiliate. He also reviewed films on television, earlier in his career, on the local ABC affiliate.

"If you're doing something in print you have to create it all," Mondello says. "From the word 'go' you have to describe things. On radio you at least have the voices and sounds of the movie that do some of the work for you — give you a feel for the movie. In television it's even more extreme, where basically the clip takes over, and it almost doesn't matter what the critic says.

Another difference between the mediums, according to Mondello, is the role of the critic. "On television, you tend to be a consumer advisor," he says. Because of the time restrictions on television, there is very little analysis. "What you get basically is someone saying, 'You shouldn't see this' or 'You should see this, I give it four stars.' What I do on the radio is to try and describe the event of the movie, and then discuss something about it."

"I hope to be a movie critic as opposed to a reviewer each time out," Mondello says, offering his personal definition of the two. "A reviewer is someone who tells you whether or not he enjoyed the movie — that's consumer advice. A critic is someone who tried to place the work of art in a social context, in a philosophical context, in an artistic context, so that it can be judged against other things about life."

However, Mondello thinks criticism is "essentially a dying profession." One reason is that people no longer have as many places to read it. "This is the *USA Today* influence on journalism: everything is in short bytes, and you can't do criticism in short bytes, you can only review."

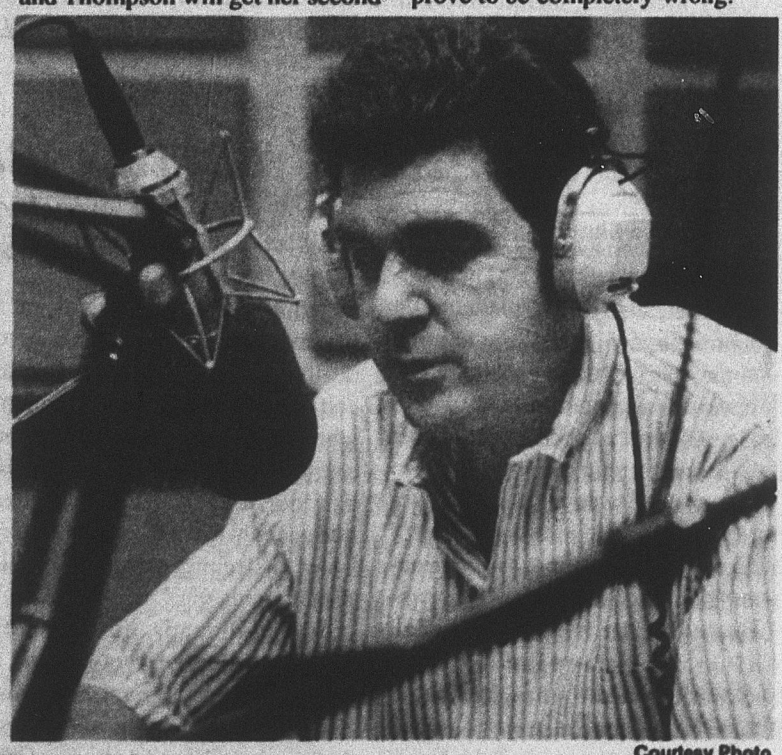
Right now the film industry finds itself in the heart of Oscar hype as the date of the awards ceremony approaches. "The Oscars," says Mondello, "which I suppose some people think of as honoring the people involved, are really a tool for promoting films." This is the realization he has come to after his years as both an advertiser and as a critic.

"Movie theaters are essentially large, dark rooms attached to popcorn stands. Where the exhibitor makes his money is on the popcorn. For the most part he's willing to just about break even on the film, but he makes a fortune on popcorn."

Looking at the new social trends reflected in current films, Mondello says that today's movies, as always, are part of a cycle. He identified "Dances With Wolves" and "Unforgiven" as a return to the Western. "Everything is dependent on the commercial aspect — on what has been successful. I don't think you'll see a whole lot of Holocaust movies, but I'll bet you see more in the next ten years than you did the previous twenty.

"The whole reason it was important that 'Philadelphia' made money," he says, considering another Oscar contender, "is that now films with gay characters, films about AIDS, can be seen as commercial, and therefore people in Hollywood might not shy away from them quite so strongly.

"Also, I don't think anybody worries about the impact that movie will have on Tom Hanks' career," who is considered top nominee for Best Actor this year. "A few years ago the general assumption was that anyone who played a gay character in a movie would thereafter be typed in people's heads, and I think this is patently not true of this particular film. So, if it changes minds it will be a good thing."



Courtesy Photo

Bob Mondello, National Public Radio's film critic, shares his views on Hollywood, criticism and the AIDS epidemic.

Mondello's own experience with the theme of AIDS goes back to the dawn of the epidemic. In 1985 or 1986, his cousin's wife was discovered to have AIDS shortly after having a baby. Mondello went to New York to live with his cousin during the ordeal, and when he returned to Washington he knew he had to do a piece about the experience.

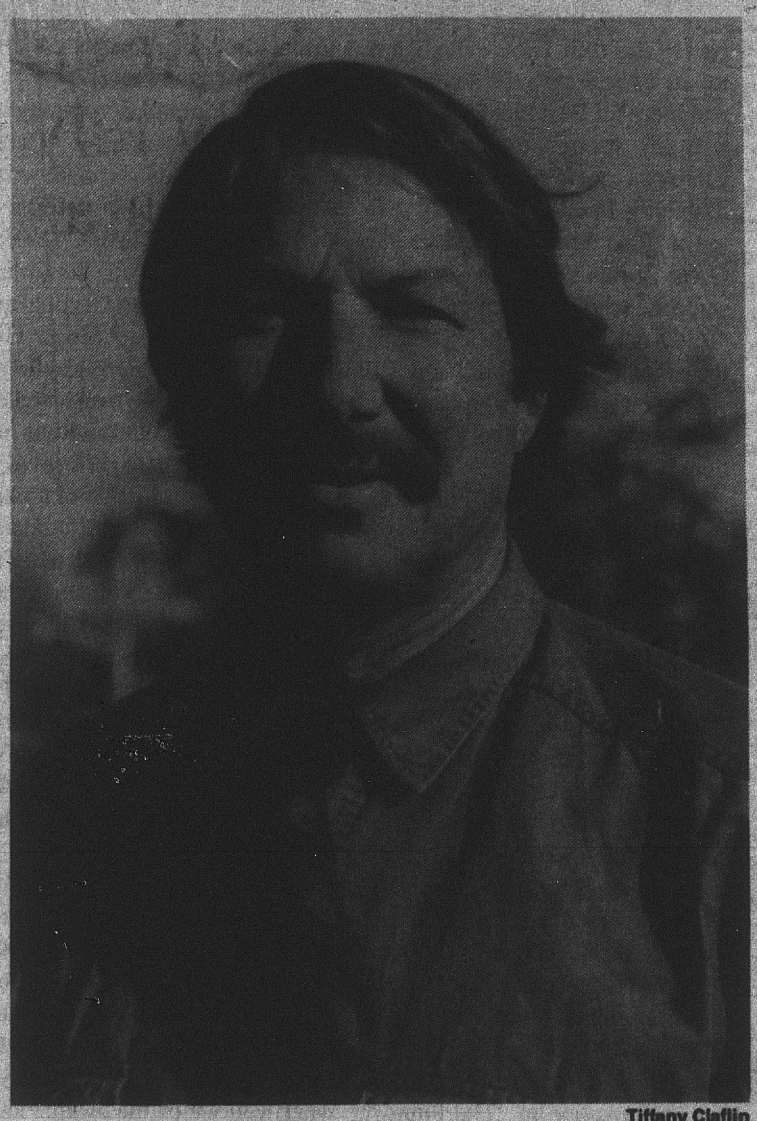
Part of being on NPR is having an audience that receives a sense of family over the airwaves. "I knew the fact that people hear from me all the time would have an impact that would be different than if we went and interviewed someone whose family has been hit with AIDS.

"I did a first person piece. It came down to this: it's really a story about my family and I should tell it that way. I went into the studio and I did a read of it and the editor said, 'Take the emotion out of your voice.' And there was a lot — I couldn't get through the thing without crying. And I did, I took all emotion out of it and read it flat.

"You realize all of the sudden that every time the audience had heard my voice it had been animated. The instant you heard my voice completely flat — completely, you knew something was wrong. And to this day it is the best thing I've ever done. It was a very strange lesson about the use of sound — that someone would listen to this thing with no other sound but my voice, and almost in a monotone for the whole time, is just amazing. We got more letters on just that piece ..."

And with that, the voice of the man from the radio faded into static.

Graduates inspire student writers to pursue creative goals



Tiffany Claflin

Gary Margolis, Middlebury alumnus and faculty member, has published a multitude of poetry and prose since he graduated.

By Lindsay Lutton

You're a First-Year Student, Sophomore, Junior or Senior, and you're wondering what you're going to do when you graduate. They wondered too — the graduates who are "settled" now. So you're a sociology major, or an English major, and what are you going to do with it? There are several examples of visibly successful Middlebury graduates who have published creative works of writing. Lawrence Raab, a professor at Williams College, and Gary Margolis, the head of counseling and human relations are two perfect examples.

Lawrence Raab, who graduated from Middlebury in 1968 with a degree in English, has published four books of poems: National Book Award finalist "What We Don't Know About Each Other," "The Collector of Cold Weather," "Mysteries of the Horizon," about one fourth of which is his senior thesis work at Middlebury, and "Other Children."

Lawrence's poems have been published in many magazines, including *The New Yorker* and *The Nation* and his work also appears in "The Best American Poetry 1993" and the third edition of "The Norton Anthology of Poetry," which some of you may have on your shelves.

"Each poem is a carefully chosen and precisely rendered moment," the book jacket for "What We Don't Know About Each Other" proclaims. "The speculative lull that follows a party; the morning after a particularly vivid dream; the instant in which something terrible appears outside the window. Each poem defines the thin membrane that separates the actual from the possible. Even as it delights us with its wit and nuance, Raab's verse compels us to remember the people we once were and to consider the alternate destinies we discarded en route to our present lives."

After graduating from Middlebury, Raab got an M.A. at Syracuse University, and received various fellowships and grants that allowed him to continue writing. He had to turn down a Fulbright fellowship in England in 1968, because, as a result of being a "conscientious objector" of the Vietnam War, he was required to serve two years of alternate service after graduation. Fortunately, more offers followed: the Junior Fellowship from the University of Michigan Society of Fellows, under which he worked for three years, and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Council on the Arts.

Raab often attended and taught at the Breadloaf Writer's Conference. He was a waiter there his junior year. Later, he went to the conference to meet the editor of *American Scholar*, a magazine in which one of his poems had been published. There, he unexpectedly met the editor's assistant, to whom he was married a few months later.

Middlebury graduate Gary Margolis has published two books of poems, "The Day We Still Stand Here" and "Falling Awake." His new works, "Fire in the Orchard," and a non-fiction book, "Seeing the Songs: Shamans in the Rain Forest," have yet to be published. Margolis started off at Middlebury as a psychology major, but ended up registering for many creative writing classes and graduating with a degree in sociology. He got a Ph.D. in counseling at the State University at New York in Buffalo, but continued to take poetry classes and workshops throughout graduate school.

Margolis also went to Breadloaf for many summers. He bartended his first year there, and is now on the teaching staff. An editor of *The New Orleans Review* who he met there asked to publish his first poem. "Knowing someone was valuing my work was a great source of confidence and motivation for me," Margolis explained.

Both Raab and Margolis praised Robert Pack, who helped them immensely with their writing careers. Section V of Margolis's book, "The Day We Still Stand Here," is dedicated to Bob Pack. Margolis said that his most important experiences as a young writer were having good teaching, coaching and feedback. "I was lucky," he said, "to have had connections with other writers and friends who were reading poetry and helped me to broaden my reading horizon. They let me know what was possible."

Raab dedicates his poem, "The Poem on Your Table" to Pack, who taught him, in his first years as a Middlebury professor, how to revise — "the most important thing a writer can learn from a teacher." Raab explains, "I am forever grateful to [Pack] for being appropriately critical and for not wanting me to write like he wanted to write."

The successes of Middlebury graduates in the creative field serve as inspiration. Reading the work of these authors under the headings of established publishing companies creates a vision for those struggling undergraduates who hope to write professionally. Above all, they remind us that there is no magical formula for becoming a famous author. They began in the same way that all Middlebury students begin — they share our fears and our triumphs, and they are examples of a success that we all may attain.

Movie Review

'The Fugitive' thrills with ingenuity

By Marlisa Simonson

If you haven't seen "The Fugitive" yet, and you're planning on renting it soon, make sure to bring some water. Oh, and make sure you have your remote at the ready. Why? Because you're going to want some water to wet your throat, and you're not going to want to take your eyes off the screen to pick up a glass.

Set in Chicago and the surrounding Illinois countryside, "The Fugitive" pits Dr. Richard Kimball (Harrison Ford) against Deputy Samuel Gerard (Tommy Lee Jones) in a battle for the truth: Kimball knows he is innocent of the brutal murder of his wife — Gerard is positive that he is a killer. But when Kimball is convicted and sent off to await his death sentence, the story has just begun.

Kimball's escape begins in a massive train wreck on his way to death row. Enter Deputy Gerard and the Chicago Police Department who block what they believe to be every possible way he could attain freedom. But they forget to take into account a single, crucial factor: They're dealing with one intelligent convict.

Kimball leads his pursuers through viaducts, rivers, prisons, a conference and several hospitals. Kimball's career as one of the most famous and talented doctors in Chicago gives him some pretty useful information. In fact, his experience may be what ultimately saves his life.

Nevertheless, Gerard isn't lacking in ingenuity either. He's always right with, if not a step ahead of, Kimball. While we're wondering what an escaped convict could possibly think of next, Gerard has already thought of it and put his people into motion. His persistence and borderline egotistical confidence leave us shaking our heads in disbelief at his foresight.

A great movie is nothing without a great director. Andrew Davis has gone above and beyond the expected. His resistance against the predictable and his characters' conquest of the impossible are what leave us short of breath.

Piano depicts sexuality

(Continued from page 14)

her husband to put their marriage back on track, Ada is filled with the desire to be with Baines — a desire evident in the disturbing scene in which a half-asleep Ada seductively nuzzles her daughter before she realizes she isn't with Baines.

At this point in the movie, Ada turns from a passive to an active participant with both men. After being locked up in the house, Ada seductively massages Stewart's body while he lies there excited but tortured. Several times Stewart reaches out to touch her, but she cringes, never letting him do so.

In a moment of violent awakening foreshadowed by his attempt to rape Ada in the forest, Stewart gives in to the primal urges of the locale and attempts to cut Ada off from all that she loves and cares for, mainly Baines and the piano.

It would seem that the movie would be ready to wind down after such a moving scene, but Campion takes the audience to a greater climax with the destruction of her ties to her husband and the piano as well. Here Ada, at last, is allowed to start over.

Campion's talent is most evident in the last scene of the movie. Through this scene, Campion squelches the happiness that the viewer has for Ada and her new life by visually posing the question of whether Ada will live a new life or if she still isn't trapped by an unknown "stillness that lulls [her] to sleep."

The role of sex in this film is disturbing in its intensity and control of every action — sexual and otherwise — of the characters. This film deserves to be seen. It is eye-opening, forcing us to stop and think of the power that sex has over our everyday experiences, and contains many performances that will not go unnoticed.

Preoccupations with body image concern students

Body image at Middlebury College is a sensitive issue. Eating disorders, which are often an effort to establish control over one's life, have become common on campus. A number of students spend long hours in the field house trying to whittle off "extra" pounds. Many students suffer from eating distress without being aware that of it. Unfortunately, those who are aware that they have a disorder are often too embarrassed or ashamed to get the counseling and support they need to stay healthy. Other students may at some level realize that they suffer from a disorder, yet be in a state of denial. Eating disorders and body image problems have detrimental effects on students' bodies and minds. We urge readers to pay close attention to the descriptions of eating distress and be able to identify them if they exist in yourself or in those around you.

Eating disorders pose problem on campus

By Rachel Odell

Eating disorders are a serious problem on nearly every college campus—everywhere there is pressure to be thin, to look good. At Middlebury, the issue of eating disorders has become a growing cause for concern. Eating disorders are estimated to affect at least half of the student population at some point in their Middlebury careers.

Eating disorders are divided into three categories: anorexia nervosa, bulimia and obesity. A sufferer of anorexia, as it is commonly called, literally stops eating in an obsession to lose weight. Another closely related illness is exercise anorexia, where a person will ardently exercise and eat very little.

Bulimia manifests itself in a binge and purge pattern where a person will eat a lot of food and then make an effort to somehow get rid of it, usually through forced vomiting, but also through over-exercising and often through the use of laxatives. The third disorder, obesity, is characterized as excessive overeating. What all of these problems share in common is eating distress as their motivating factor. The most prominent manifestation of an eating disorder, according to Yonna McShane, Director of Health Education, is compulsive eating.

Throughout the campus, there are both male and female students who either are presently or will be eventually affected by an eating disorder. Why has this become such a trend at Middlebury? Does this campus help to cause harmful behavior patterns such as anorexia and bulimia in people? Those in a high risk group for eating disorders are characterized by perfectionism, competitiveness and desire for success. These traits, however, are inherent in most Middlebury students and are an actual reflection of Middlebury standards. If these characteristics are not innate in some, they may be present because a number of students have adopted these ways of life in an effort to get into and then survive at such a competitive college.

McShane cites sense of control as major factor concerning many patients with eating disorders. She believes that "if people are feeling out of control with school, grades and other aspects of life, [their bodies are] an outlet for them to control something." However, this attempt at control leads to detrimental results.

Few people realize the severity of eating disorders. Anorexia is not always as dire as starvation, yet approximately five to 10 percent of anorexic patients do end up starving themselves, experiencing dangerous malnourishment. This especially affects anorexic women ages 18-25 because they do not get enough calcium in their diets. Lack of calcium leads to osteoporosis, a bone disorder causing the bones to become very brittle in old age.

Bulimics suffer from an electrolyte imbalance. When bulimics purge their bodies of food, they disrupt the balance of sodium and potassium in their stomachs which can lead to cardiac arrest. Men and women have died from heart attacks induced by excessive vomiting. Bulimia, like anorexia, also leads to calcium deficiencies.

Even knowing all this, students at Middlebury do not always practice healthy eating habits. According to Abby Eagye '92, a Residential Housing Assistant in Stewart, "Eating disorders are such a problem here because people have a bad body image and that affects the way they eat. I think a lot of women put the pressure on themselves to be skinny."

Middlebury College provides three different types of treatment for students with eating disorders. A support group run by Nancy Blejwas meets Thursday afternoons in Mitchell Greene Lounge at 4:15 p.m. The Parton Health Center also provides individual counseling, with four counselors available to students. Students may also seek nutritional counseling, provided by the college nutritionist, Nancy Metzler. These programs are confidential and free. Each encourages people to come forward and get help, stressing that eating disorders are a problem that can be overcome. At a campus where people are as active as they are at Middlebury, the average body type is thin.

Tiffany Claflin

Some students, in an effort to maintain an ideal weight, will rely solely on what they consider to be "safe" foods.

Tiffany Claflin

Students often about worry how others will judge their appearance.

"[Eating disorders] are such a problem here because everyone at Middlebury is beautiful," said Nancy Fallen '96. "There is a lot of pressure from [athletic] teams to be lightweight," she continued, saying that the pressure to be thin "is really hard because the way people look here is unrealistic as compared to how people look in the real world."

Much of the low self-esteem and poor body image found among people in general has been attributed to the media. The argument is often made that our culture is bombarded with ads and magazines that try to ingrain the idea that "thin is in." Supermodels from Cindy Crawford to Kate Moss, and those companies that use them to advertise products, have been attacked for establishing unrealistic standards of how thin a woman should be to be considered attractive.

At Middlebury, many believe students are trying to attain a supermodel body by harming themselves. Some associate pretty with skinny. Betsey Traver '95 said, "I have had too many conversations at Middlebury about food. People here talk so much about food that they lose perspective." Traver expressed her frustration with the popular body-type, saying, "I get sick of people saying 'you're so skinny.' Being told you are skinny is not a compliment, but here people think it is. Nobody would ever say, 'Oh you're so fat,' so why can't they just say 'you look good?'"

Even people who don't suffer from eating disorders can unconsciously reinforce the sterectypes that make them such a common occurrence. As Traver stated, "Skinny is not the adjective to use. Skinny is not [necessarily] equivalent to attractive."

Self-esteem may rely on appearance

By Becki Plona

Issues of body image have long been present at Middlebury College. Many women and men have, at one time or another, felt inadequate or unhappy because of their physical appearance and a great many students resolve to do something about it. Some may choose to exercise on their own or to join a sports team. Others decide that embarking on a healthier eating regime is the way to go and begin monitoring their fat and caloric intake. Some choose a combination of exercise and health-conscious eating.

But trouble begins with students who take the issue of body image too seriously and go to extreme measures to correct what they perceive as their physical flaws. Some students begin exercising non-stop, skipping meals and spending all their free time in the fitness center. Some may take dieting to an extreme, developing an eating disorder. Others may decide that the only way they will be happy is through the attainment of what they see as the ideal body — thin, muscular, perfectly proportioned. Why is this so?

Eating disorders are often a manifestation of a need for control. Individuals who feel they cannot control external affairs and events often turn to their bodies as something over which they exercise definitive authority. They often feel that positive regard from other people will only be forthcoming if they achieve and maintain some ideal body type. But sometimes the standards that they set for themselves are unrealistic and unattainable.

"I do think people at Middlebury are very concerned about their appearance," said Yonna McShane, director of health education. McShane believes the issue of body image is directly linked to the issue of self-esteem. Concurrent with the humanists' view of personality in psychology, McShane also explained that without a positive sense of self-worth, individuals can not become fully functional.

In our culture, physical beauty is highly prized. Women are portrayed in magazine and television advertisements as slender, athletic and smiling. Men in these same ads are muscular but not fat, strong and sure. This is the level of physical attractiveness we are given as a model—unfortunately, only a very small section of the population can ever look like the supermodels.

McShane believes that the power of the media has a strong effect on the way people, especially college students, feel they should look, saying, "We, as a culture, tend to discount the power of the media." She

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Pressure to be fit can cultivate obsessions

By Rob Hendricks

When one thinks of Middlebury College, several things come to mind: the mountains, the "great outdoors," skiing and the overall feel of a healthy environment. The geography of this school tends to attract students who value health and fitness as a part of their development as a person. Throughout the lives of many of the students, sports and other extracurricular activities are essential.

According to Martin Beatty, coach of both the men's and women's track and field, "a really positive thing about this environment, as it pertains to health and fitness, is the fact that students seem to believe in the adage 'a sound body and a sound mind.'"

Yet, at what price does "fitness" come, and when does the desire to be fit become an obsession with staying thin, or with "bulking-up" one's physique?

Take a look around Proctor and observe just how many people eat little or nothing and then rush off to the fitness center to burn off the whole 375 calories that they have consumed; the "nutritional" intake that was to fill them for the entire day. Although not all students exhibit such extreme behavior, the theme is recurrent. The large quantities of beer and other alcoholic beverages consumed on weekends are another reason students give for heading to the field house. A popular practice is to "work off" extra calories from weekend alcohol consumption by putting the body through sheer hell during the following week.

Both practices are harmful, sometimes bordering on exercise bulimia. Students who do strenuous exercise to ease a conscience guilty from eating or drinking heavily, or who limit their consumption of nutritional foods to well below established standards, are not only damaging their bodies but are also falling prey to misconceptions of health and healthy habits.

Many believe that at a school which takes health and fitness so seriously, more should be offered in the way of nutrition and health education, so that the campus can start to become truly healthy and so that students do not continue to hurt their bodies. Although the college does have a staff nutritionist, and Beatty leads a "Personal Fitness" physical education class, very few students ever learn the basics of maintaining healthy versus unhealthy eating and exercise habits.

One reason that students may feel pressure to exercise is because they see others doing it. People in the fitness center often seem to monitor how hard and how much their neighbors work.

"This is a very fit campus and nearly everyone goes to the fitness center," said Rick Balakier '94. "I think it puts a lot of pressure on people to work out when they wouldn't ordinarily do so, just to keep pace with the rest of the school."

Tiffany Claflin

Middlebury students place great emphasis on physical fitness and keep the Fitness Center busy.

Self-esteem may rely on outward appearance

(continued from page 17)

explained that "to think that [the media] doesn't affect our consciousness is naive. People who come from other cultures are surprised by our emphasis on women's bodies and weight."

A couple of years ago, two senior women put together a study on women, eating, and self-image at Middlebury College. The work, entitled "Body Scan," was written by Margie McDonald and Suzanne Wintsch and surveyed 170 female students and interviewed several women at length.

They discovered that 29 percent of the women they surveyed were unhappy with their bodies. Over 50 percent of the respondents said they would like to lose weight. McDonald and Wintsch also cited a study from Dartmouth College that claimed one in every four college women exhibit symptoms of anorexia.

In the McDonald-Wintsch study, the women interviewed gave various reasons for being unhappy with their bodies. Some felt that pressure to be thin came from the media. Many assumed that men would not find them attractive unless they were slender. "I won't get a boyfriend unless I'm thin," said one female respondent.

For both women and men, exercise becomes a way to achieve a certain body type. Students of both sexes spend long hours in the fitness center, lifting weights or using Stairmasters in order to lose weight or build muscle. McShane remarked on what she called the "high rate of athleticism on the Middlebury campus."

"Here," said McShane, "I find a far more active student body than any I have worked with in the past. I agree that aerobic activity is really important, but I find some people overdo it."

For both women and men, issues of body image can present a problem, especially when taken to extremes.

One of the women interviewed by McDonald and Wintsch harbored a wish that all people could accept themselves no matter their shape. She explained, "Being conscious of your body and being happy with your body go hand in hand. I'd like to see that happen."

Survey results reveal students' eating anxieties

By Jen Varney

A survey of 20 randomly chosen students indicates that Middlebury students are indeed very concerned with their bodies and the way that they look. Apparently, most students make efforts to improve their bodies and their health. Fourteen of the respondents, or 70 percent, said that they tried to eat healthy foods, and 15 people, 75 percent, said that they exercise on a regular basis. However, despite this trend, 8 respondents, 40 percent, say that they are not satisfied with the way their bodies look.

The positive side is that 45 percent said that they were generally satisfied with their physiques. People seem to be more sensitive when it comes to what others think of them, however, since 35 percent say that they worry about how other people perceive their body, and another 25 percent say that they sometimes are anxious about the same thing. Only 40 percent said they aren't worried about how others see their bodies. One respondent summed up the feelings of many when she said, "I worry about my body to a certain extent, I think everybody does, but it's not a driving factor in my life."

These numbers seem to suggest that people are concerned, but not overwhelmed. The responses to the final question on the survey, however, are much more disturbing. When asked if someone they knew had an eating disorder or if they suspected that someone they knew had an eating disorder, a whopping 65 percent of the respondents said that they did. Perhaps there was an error in the way the question was phrased, since one of the respondents who answered "no" stated, "If you'd go with me to the Fitness Center I could point out several people [who might have disorders] to you, but I just don't know them personally."

These numbers indicate that students are more concerned with their bodies than they admit. If the survey held true for the student body as a whole, and 65 percent of the entire campus actually knew someone with an eating disorder, that would mean that over 1300 students on campus know one or more people with a disorder. These numbers are simply speculative, but they are frightening just the same.

One of the survey respondents, Lisa Old '96, said that she had suffered from anorexia five years ago but has since recovered. "It's all about body image," she explained. "The point is to be as thin as possible; thinner than everyone else." She said she was so concerned about her body that she weighed herself four or five times a day, and looked in the mirror constantly. "I never actually thought that I was fat," she said. "When I saw pictures [of myself] I thought I looked fine. Now I realize; I see [how thin I was]."

Old described how the anorexia began. "One day towards the end of seventh grade — I remember the day perfectly — I just decided that I was going to get skinnier than everyone else." Like so many other victims of eating disorders, Old evaluated her self-esteem on how thin she was. "I began to measure how good I was [based] on how little I ate and on how much I exercised."

Old explained that while suffering from the disorder, she did not think anyone could tell she had it, a common belief among anorexics. If the 65 percent of respondents who said they are concerned that someone they know may have a problem is any indication, people can tell.

Do Middlebury students have a body image problem? An informal survey.

1. *Do you generally watch what you eat?*

	Yes	No	Sometimes
Men	56%	33%	11%
Women	82%	0%	18%

2. *Do you exercise regularly?*

	Yes	No
Men	89%	11%
Women	64%	36%

3. *Do you know someone with an eating disorder?*

	Yes	No
Men	56%	44%
Women	73%	27%

4. *Are you satisfied with the way your body looks?*

	Yes	No	Sometimes
Men	56%	33%	11%
Women	36%	45%	18%

5. *Do you worry about how others perceive your body?*

	Yes	No	Sometimes
Men	11%	56%	33%
Women	55%	27%	18%

The results were based on a random sampling of 9 men and 11 women.

CLASSIFIEDS

Parents: Looking for a great early graduation present? How about a 1993 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited with Quadra-Track, ABS, airbag? 36K highway miles, leather interior, beautiful condition. Call Geoff Smith, Director of Admissions, ext. 5153.

House for sale: Comfortable and spacious, walking distance to College and Schools, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, large deck, 2 car garage. Fully applianced kitchen, diningroom. Mature landscaping, fruit trees, garden. Call x5452 ro 860-3921.

Cruise Ship Jobs! Students needed! Earn $2000+ monthly. Summer/holidays/fulltime. World travel. Caribbean, Hawaii, Europe, Mexico. Tour guides, gift shop sales, deck hands, casino workers, etc. No experience necessary. Call 602-680-4647, Ext. C147.

SPRING BREAK: Seven nights from $299. Includes: air, hotel, transfers, parties and more! Nassau, Paradise Island, Cancun, Jamaica, San Juan. Organize a small group. Earn FREE trip plus commissions! 1-800-426-7710.

PREGNANT and looking for a loving home for your newborn? Michael and Joanne long to share their hearts and home with a child. Please contact our attorney, Margaret Hall collect at (603) 673-8323.

Wanted this summer: Conscientious college student who likes to work outside and is able to commit 25 hours a week (minimum). House, barn and fence painting; mowing and weed-whacking; and otherwise taming the big outdoors. Eight miles from campus. $7 an hour. Call Caroline 453-3676 and leave message.

Wanted: Field Hockey coaches at Middlebury Union Jr.-Sr. High School for September and October, 1994. Salary provided. If interested call Gail Jette at 388-7126 before 8 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

Interested in Marketing/Advertising? Interested in earning extra CASH? Please call Tami or Lisa for part time assignments 1-800-233-7751.

LEADERS NEEDED: Summer teenage bicycling trips. U.S., Canada, Europe. Minimum 4-week time commitment. Salary plus expenses paid. Student Hosteling Program, Ashfield Road, Conway, MA 01341; 1-800-343-6132.

Europe this summer? Fly — only $169! California — $129 each way! Caribbean/ Mexican Coast/ Florida, too! — $189 round trip! No gimmicks. Fly with Airtech, 1-800-575-TECH.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Spanish student wants a summer exchange with a Midd student. She would come to USA for a month while the Midd student would spend a month (or more) at her house in Ouiedo, Spain. If you are interested, please contact Cristina at x7205.

Please do not put food into the recycling bins marked 'compost.' Though food is compostable, it will cause odors in your hallways while it is sitting there for a week. Thank you.

SHO-MIDD, the student hosting organization of Middlebury College is looking for people to host prospectives overnight. If you have room on your floor and can spend a dinner talking with a high school student, call SHO-MIDD's voice mail box at ext. 1515, leaving your name and extension.

Computer training sessions in the first floor classrooms of Voter: Navigating the Internet for Vax Users, Wed. March 23, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Introduction to the Internet for IBM Users, Wed., March 23, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Internet Navigation Tools for Mac Users, Mon. March 28, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Introduction to Microsoft Word for Windows, Wed. March 30, 4:00 to 5:00. For more information call Academic Computing, ext. 6141.

Painter Hall and Weybridge House won the Green Cup recycling competition. The third and final competition begins after spring break. Please conserve water!

Calvin and Hobbes
by Bill Watterson
TIME TO GET UP, CALVIN.
IS IT A SNOW DAY? DID THEY CLOSE THE SCHOOLS?
I'VE GOT THE RADIO ON, SO WE'LL HEAR. GET READY ANYWAY, THOUGH.
OH MAN, I HOPE I HOPE I HOPE!
IF SCHOOL'S CLOSED, I'LL HAVE THE WHOLE DAY TO DO THE MATH HOMEWORK I FORGOT YESTERDAY. IF SCHOOL'S OPEN, I'M IN BIG TROUBLE.
SUDDENLY I FEEL EXTREMELY RELIGIOUS.
ANOTHER DEATHBED CONVERSION.
HA HA! THEY JUST ANNOUNCED THE SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED! IT'S A SNOW DAY! WHEEEEEEE!
YES! YES! YES! YES!
TALK ABOUT LUCK! NOW YOU CAN DO YOUR HOMEWORK AND YOU WON'T GET IN TROUBLE!
RIGHT, BUT THERE'S OVER TWO FEET OF SNOW THAT REQUIRES OUR IMMEDIATE AND UNDIVIDED ATTENTION.
FIRST THINGS FIRST.
MATH WILL STILL BE THERE WHEN THE SNOW MELTS.
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'D ENJOY THIS MORE IF YOU DID YOUR MATH ASSIGNMENT FIRST, SO IT WASN'T HANGING OVER YOUR HEAD?
I'M A PRACTICAL MAN, HOBBES. I DON'T WASTE TIME THINKING ABOUT HYPOTHETICAL SITUATIONS. I DEAL WITH THE WORLD HERE AND NOW.
AND THE INCONTROVERTIBLE FACT IS THAT I'M OUTSIDE IN THE SNOW! THAT'S REALITY! THAT'S WHAT I THINK ABOUT!
TOMORROW'S A REALITY TOO.
HYPOTHETICALLY, IT MIGHT BE ANOTHER SNOW DAY.
WHAT A BUSY DAY! I'M POOPED!
MOM SAYS THE ROADS ARE PRETTY CLEAR, SO SCHOOL WILL PROBABLY OPEN AGAIN TOMORROW.
NOW I WISH I'D DONE MY MATH HOMEWORK INSTEAD OF PLAYING OUTSIDE ALL DAY.
...OR I WISH I'D DONE IT BEFORE DINNER... OR AFTER DINNER... OR INSTEAD OF WATCHING TV... OR BEFORE BED. BUT NOW IT'S TOO LATE.
A DAY CAN REALLY SLIP BY WHEN YOU'RE DELIBERATELY AVOIDING WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO.
OH, I WISH I'D DONE MY MATH HOMEWORK! NOW THE TEACHER'S GOING TO COLLECT IT AND I'M AS GOOD AS DEAD!
WHY DID I DO THIS TO MYSELF?! I EVEN HAD AN EXTRA DAY TO GET IT DONE! INSTEAD, I GOOFED OFF AND NOW I'M GOING TO PAY FOR IT!
BOY, I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON! THIS DAY HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT DREAD, AND I COULD'VE AVOIDED IT ALL! HERE SHE COMES! GOODBYE, WORLD!
RRINNGGGG
I'LL COLLECT YOUR HOMEWORK TOMORROW, CLASS.
SUSIE, QUICK, AM I SITTING IN A BEAM OF LIGHT?
LOOKS MORE LIKE A PUDDLE OF SWEAT. WHY?
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT! THE BELL RANG JUST AS THE TEACHER WAS ABOUT TO COLLECT THE HOMEWORK I DIDN'T DO!
THAT'S TWICE YOU'VE BEEN SAVED AT THE LAST MINUTE.
BUT I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON THIS TIME.
FROM NOW ON, IT'S WORK BEFORE PLEASURE! NO EXCEPTIONS!
AND IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO HAVE THAT HOMEWORK DONE! C'MON, LET'S WORK ON A SNOWMAN.
NO EXCEPTIONS.

PERSONALS

I 'checked my box before 12:00' & got the three invites to Pearsons. Thanks but I was already doing something. Tell me sometime who you were. — John

OVERHEARDS

"Yah, we have one @#$%&*! in our house."
— anonymous at the Tavern

"That's not true love, that was two leftovers hooking up."
"We are all leftovers." — in Proctor

"Men can't have babies. And no amount of feminism can change that." — blond at Rosie's

"My stomach's empty, or is that my head?" — same blond in Burlington

To Security Dave from a junior in Starr:
"You're not catchin' me in the act."

"The little chick security guard helped my friend throw up at the ball." — First-year woman in Allen

"I wasn't really dissed, it was more like nudged." — Junior woman on 3rd floor Gifford

"She doesn't see the things under my covers."
— woman on 4th floor Stewart

"I stopped looking for guys in Battell because they don't have the stamina to keep up with me."
— Junior woman from Pearsons

"And I was wondering what he was putting in my mouth." — Senior woman in Chateau

"Hi, I'm looking for a job, possibly a career."
"Are you a sophomore or a junior?"
"No."
"Sorry, you're too late." — in CC&P

"I don't mind the white stuff coming down, as long as it's warm." — philosophic junior in Gifford

"He sort of floats my boat in a beer-goggling sort of way." — about a certain KDR guy

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

HAS THE JURY REACHED A VERDICT?
WE HAVE, YOUR HONOR...
WE FIND THE DEFENDANT GUILTY OF GIVING THE PLAINTIFF AN UNFAIR GRADE, THUS DEFAMING THE ENTIRE GRECO-AMERICAN ATHLETIC COMMUNITY. WE AWARD THE PLAINTIFF DAMAGES OF $5 MILLION.
THE COURT THANKS THE JURY FOR ITS SERVICE...
...DESPITE ITS MORONIC VERDICT.
HEY, WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR $12 A DAY?
PETER, THE GUILTY VERDICT IS BEING HAILED TODAY BY A VERY HAPPY GRECO-AMERICAN ATHLETIC COMMUNITY...
ALBERT SLOCUM, WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS RIGHT NOW? ARE YOU FEELING ANYTHING? YOU MUST HAVE SOME PRETTY AMAZING FEELINGS, SON!
I DO, ROLAND, BUT I'LL TELL YOU, IT'S BEEN A LONG, DIFFICULT TRIAL. EVEN WITH THE $5 MILLION AWARD, WE NEED TIME TO HEAL.
PARTY! PARTY!
YO! LET THE HEALING BEGIN!
WE'RE TALKING TO WALTER BOOTH, JURY FOREMAN FOR THE DEADMAN TRIAL. MR. BOOTH, WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE FOR THIS JURY?
WELL, I'D SAY THE PLAINTIFF'S SIDE DID A REAL GOOD JOB OF PERSUADING US THAT WALDEN COLLEGE HAD SOLD ITSELF AS A PLACE WHERE A KID COULD EXPECT STRAIGHT "A"S.
ALSO, JURORS ARE HUMAN. THERE WASN'T ONE OF US WHO COULDN'T REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO RECEIVE A "B."
NO KIDDING, MAN? YOU GOT "B"S, TOO?
WELL, IN OUR DAY, WE CALLED THEM "D"S.
JULES? ARE YOU OKAY?
ME? I'M FINE. IT'S THE COLLEGE THAT'S IN TROUBLE. NEVER AGAIN WILL A TEACHER BOTHER TO GIVE A GRADE ON MERIT!
FROM NOW ON, HE'LL BE TOO AFRAID—AFRAID OF HIS STUDENTS, HIS PEERS, THE COURTS! THE ACADEMIC MERITOCRACY HERE IS DEAD!
WELL, THERE'S STILL THE FOOTBALL PROGRAM...
THEY MIGHT AS WELL BRING ON OUR JAPANESE MASTERS RIGHT NOW!
KING, THE WORLD YOU AND I GREW UP IN IS CRUMBLING...
STUDENTS WERE ONCE ASKED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN PERFORMANCE. BUT TODAY, IF A STUDENT FAILS A COURSE, IT'S OUR FAULT!
THAT MOMENT OF ACCOUNTABILITY—BRINGING HOME A REPORT CARD—IS NOT AS WE ONCE KNEW IT, OLD FRIEND!
SON, I'M VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED IN YOUR TEACHER!
ME, TOO, DAD.
KING, I KNOW THE OUTCOME WASN'T WHAT WE'D HOPED FOR, BUT SOMEONE HAD TO DRAW THE LINE! THE FIGHT WAS STILL WORTH IT!
SURE, IF YOU DON'T CONSIDER THE COST. FOR YOU, IT MEANS CHANGING ONE GRADE ON A TRANSCRIPT. FOR ME, IT MEANS COMING UP WITH $5 MILLION.
THAT'S WHAT SELF-RESPECT COSTS THESE DAYS, JULES. THAT'S THE PRICE OF PRESERVING THE DIGNITY OF THE INSTITUTION.
I UNDERSTAND, SIR.
FORTUNATELY, WE'LL RECOUP SOME OF IT WITH THE MOVIE.
OH, GOOD.

Ultimate Frisbee readies for spring

By Jarrod Turner

After looking around fruitlessly for guidance, forge ahead through the doorway and allow yourself to dissolve into the throng on the other side. Your head will grow faint amidst the rugged, determined crowd. There is something taking place here that cannot be fully understood. The buzz of an unknown language is in the air, as something flies overhead, accompanied by plastic missiles. Each step is treacherous, every breath introduces the air of smelly socks. In each person's life there are such experiences, at once dazzling in their intensity and potentially terrifying.

What threshold has been crossed? Is it a foreign prison, a visit to the detention center in Williamstown, MA, perhaps? No, it's the ultimate Frisbee team's indoor practice, of course. After several minutes of acclimation, and a few smiling faces innocently offering, "Wanna throw?" the scene becomes much less unsettling. The field house really isn't filled to capacity, but ultimate players have seemingly leapt forth from behind every melting snowbank and muddy cesspool on campus to join the festivities.

The sport's distinctive jargon eventually seems normal, as does the fleet of discs soaring through the building; although errant passes occasionally endanger the head of an innocent bystander. Such mishaps are to be expected as the team indoctrinates new recruits and converts them to this stunningly beautiful sport.

Team leaders are popping the Tums like never before, in a vain attempt to cope with the onslaught of disc disciples. In fact, the sheer pressure has nearly overwhelmed new captain Daniel Pope '95, but he has so far weathered the storm and shown solid leadership.

Among the forty-five or so participants in these twice-weekly rituals, about half are women. The women's team has grown exponentially this year, raising hopes for a group which will contend in the sectional playoffs this spring. Said Prankster Kristin Currier '94, "We'll need a heck of a lot more Big League Chew this season, that's for doggone sure!" No matter how much gum they're chewing, led by Sarah Teele '94, Marie D'Amato '96 and Sara Peskin '96, the women will make their presence felt throughout the Northeast.

The missionary movement that is ultimate has been equally successful on the men's side. Converts abound, marveling at the divine abilities of Captain Emeritus Matt Evans '94. Evans and fellow seniors Ethan McKittrick, Whit Bacon, Brett Leland, Jon Johnstone and Joel Thompson have honed their skills over the course of several seasons, and their status as team dinosaurs has by no means lessened their ability to contribute.

These veterans have been boosted by a new legion of Pranksters, a high-octane crew more than willing to unleash their furious speed on the field. They practice the ritual cutting and defending characteristic of ultimate with pleasure and ease, and it becomes readily apparent from watching them play that this outfit can barely contain its desire to release its full energy in the splendor of gritty mud, foreboding skies and tricky winds which comprise spring. In the meantime, if any of them learn how to throw, according to team secretary Matt Roy '95, "Why that would just be the gravy."

The prospects for this season are frighteningly bright. The mixture of hardened veterans and precocious new talent on the men's and women's sides is cause for rejoicing among team members. The only obstacle to success is a tradition of low ambitions. While the Pranksters' trademark emphasis on revelry seems unbound by any human constraints, they could still perform well given the proper dedication. Comments treasurer Fritz Burkhardt '95, "Anything could happen. The cow could jump over the moon, the fork could run away with the spoon, Conan O'Brien could give a hilarious monologue and dang it, we could go to regionals!"

The team's destiny will become clearer following a spring break pilgrimage to South Carolina.

Courtesy Photo

With acrobatic catches like these, the ultimate Frisbee club should enjoy another fun-filled and successful campaign this spring.

Harriers await spring

(continued from page 24)

iors Zach Laidley and Oliver Truog will perform in the 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs.

In the jumping and field events, the Middlebury men boast a similar balance. Senior Foster Goodrich, last year's New England champion in the discus and hammer, should throw his way into contention in the discus, hammer and shot-put. Kyle Hirsch '96, an All New England performer as well, will throw the discus and shot. The jumping contingent consists of Shawn Tierney '97, Kipp Sutton '94 and Osamede Iyahen '96, in the long, triple and high jumps respectively.

The women's team expects to rely less on speed and more on field and jumping events. Hillery Hinds '96 returns after an All New England 1993 to run the 200 meters, but most of the women's points should be earned by their throwers and jumpers.

Senior co-captains Jen Hutchins and Kathy Becker lead an otherwise young squad. Hutchins returns as the reigning NESCAC champion in the javelin and an All New England 100 meter hurdler. Becker will throw the hammer.

The jumping events promise to be exciting for the Panthers. First-year students Liz Morgan and Alissa White will duel in the triple jump. Morgan set the Middlebury school record during the indoor season and White arrives as the 1993 Massachusetts state high school champion. Beatty anticipates that "their head to head competition will only make them better."

In the middle and distance running events, Middlebury hopes to continue the success they enjoyed this winter. Michele Anastasio '97, fresh from her All New England performance during indoor track, will run the 3,000 and 5,000 meter events with fellow first-years Carly Vin and Sarah Rebick. Bethany Johnson '96, Brooke Magnaghi '96 and Molly Enman '97 will compete in the 800 meters.

Both teams are optimistic as the spring season begins. When they return from California, they will jump right into NESCAC competition on April 2 against Wesleyan.

Tiffany Claflin

The track team is off to California for spring break to prepare for its NESCAC schedule in April .

Softball kicks off inaugural season

By Eliza Spang and Shelley Sayward

Batter up! On Saturday, the newly formed Middlebury softball club traveled to Union College in Schenectady, New York for an early morning scrimmage. The contest took place in the Union fieldhouse, an unfamiliar game setting for the Middlebury women.

As she watched the very experienced varsity women from Union warm up, Emily Aikenhead '95 said "this is going to be a tough game, so let's pull together as a team." Her statement proved prophetic, as Union for the most part dominated play, but the Middlebury sluggers showed skill and promise in their inaugural competition.

The infield played well, committing few errors and making only a handful of inaccurate throws. Starting shortstop Kathleen Kuykendall '94 snagged two hard-hit line drives to make the final outs in two consecutive innings. Coach Connie LaRose was impressed with Kuykendall's performance with her glove, pointing out that "she will be a real asset to the team this season."

Another member of the infield, third baseman Heather Kasten '97, played outstanding as well, seeing her share of action at the hot corner. Catcher Martha Newell '95 played a solid game behind the plate, almost nabbing a stealing Dutchmen with a fast and accurate throw to second base.

The game's pitchers, first-year students Laura Sanchez and Wendy Peterson, gave it their all as the first ever Panther softball hurlers to take to the collegiate mound. Starting pitcher Sanchez had difficulty at the beginning of the contest when she was forced to change her pitching motion due to NCAA rules, but she was able to make the necessary adjustments and improve her technique during the game itself.

Peterson relieved Sanchez at the halfway mark and showed potential to be a strong reliever in future games. The scrimmage was a good experience for both young pitchers because they not only threw against a strong batting line-up, but were able to observe Union pitching styles as well.

Since this was the first time the Middlebury team has faced a college level pitcher, they had some difficulty making hard contact with the ball. The Union pitching was fast and intimidating at first, but the Panthers became comfortable with this style by the last few innings.

The whole experience showed the Middlebury club team that they need to devote more time to batting practice against faster pitching. Ilse Guck '96 summed up the scrimmage well when she commented, "I was impressed with our skill and unity in our first game situation, but we still have a lot of polishing up to do."

Hey sports fans! Write for *The Campus* sports section! Call Rob at x3986.

Crew teams train while waiting for the thaw

By Rick Balakier

"Winning is not convenient!" By heeding this battle cry, the Middlebury crew teams hope to achieve their most triumphant seasons ever. The motto is a result of the arrival of Middlebury's new crew coach, Blair Haarlow. Coach Haarlow, who derives his expertise from rowing on the Princeton national boat, has been changing the image of Middlebury crew from club sport to hard-core varsity team.

The first two steps Haarlow has taken to insure the success of the crew team are fixing the team's rowing technique and intensifying its workouts. In crew, technique is of the utmost importance. Perfect technique yields perfect speed. To non-rowers, rowing may look simple, but it isn't. Even after years of rowing, most varsity crew members admit that they are still improving their stroke. Because of the lack of a consistent coaching staff prior to Haarlow, previous Middlebury teams always suffered from flaws in their rowing technique.

In order to combat this, Haarlow turned the fall season into a preparation for the spring. He even asked boats in the fall to forgo speed to work on their technique during regattas. He has also insisted that every stroke of winter training be performed with absolute race-like concentration.

Winning certainly lost its convenience with the number of strokes taken in winter training this year. Junior Harlan Kennedy gives the best description of winter training: "People ask me, 'when does the crew season start?,' and I say, it never ended."

Indeed, ever since the last regatta of the fall season, the crew team has been working intensely on their overall fitness with land workouts. For varsity rowers this means practice three days a week on ergometers (rowing machines) and three days a week of alternative aerobic activities. These activities include, among other things: running stairs, swimming, playing soccer and running with ferocity through a field covered in two feet of snow. Current workouts require fitness levels which far exceed the demands of past years.

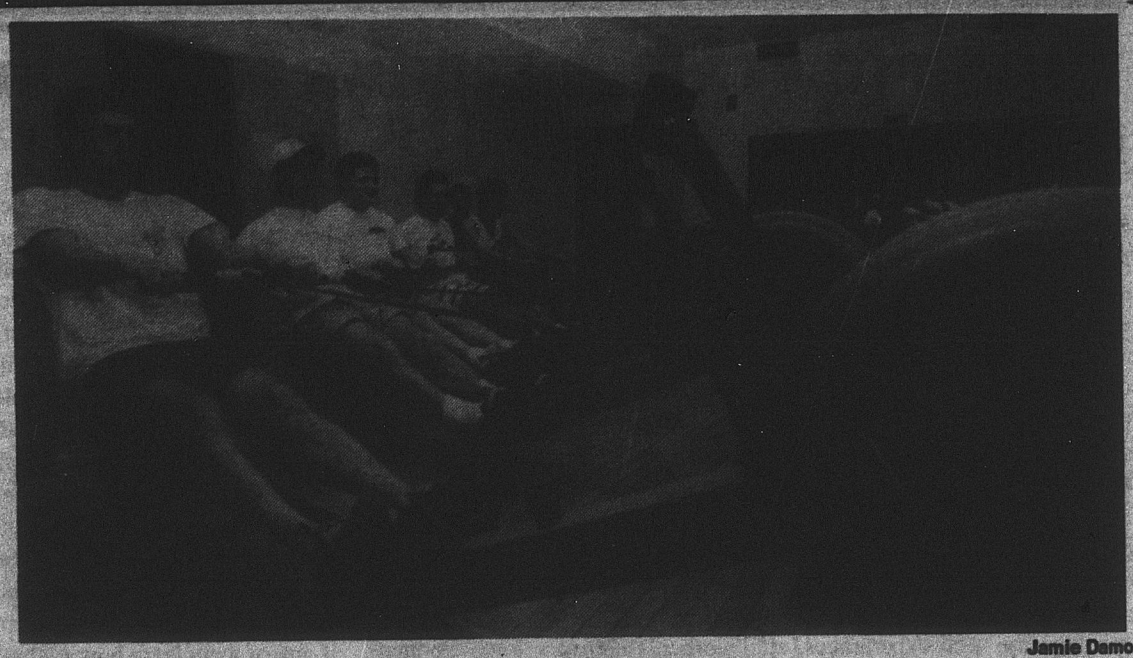
The biggest setback to Middlebury crew's spring season is that Vermont's water will probably remain in its inconvenient cubic form until late April. That is why the team is spending spring break in beautiful South Carolina. After a week of concentrated practice, the 1994 edition of Middlebury crew will be ready for its inaugural race, the first weekend in April.

The men's varsity team will be racing three boats this spring, two of which will be light-weight four man boats. The third men's varsity boat will be in the open-weight class. The men's captain is Jason Stull '94.

The women's varsity team will be rowing a light-weight four, with rowers under 125 pounds. The varsity women's captain is Alyson Piskorowski '96.

The novice team is divided into two rowing classifications: those who rowed in the fall, and those who did not. The new novice team is comprised mostly of February first-year students. They do not have their own coach this year, but Haarlow has found time to push them in their workouts in preparation for the spring. Consequently, they too are in better shape this season than their counterparts of seasons past. There is no weight class distinction for the novice team and they will be racing in eight member boats. The novice men's captain is Doug Levine '96. The novice women's captains are Rebecca Cowgill '97 and Stephanie Pindyck '97.

The are currently a couple of coxswain positions open. If you are interested in crew, weigh less than 125 pounds and can think quickly and talk faster, contact the crew office at extension 3109. No experience necessary.



Jamie Damon

The men's crew team has been hitting the ergometers as part of their pre-season workouts.

Men's volleyball finishes in style

(continued from page 24)

over the net, while his California frontline mate, Robyn Erman '97, tooled a series of balls off opponents' fingers to win point after point. Several Lord Jeffs left the court with "Tachikara," the brand name of the game's volleyballs, boldly imprinted on their faces.

Perhaps the most surprising and effective aspect of the Panther's game was the blocking of Ludman and the rest of the front row. Amherst simply could not put the ball past the wall that Middlebury created. It was enough to make Howson and Bushell, forever awaiting their chance to hit in the front row, become almost bored by the inaction in the back, although their few moments of action were marked by some sparkling digs. Fueled by all this incredible play, Middlebury won the second game 15-9.

If one cause can be attributed to the Panthers eventual defeat, it was fatigue. Unaccustomed to the grueling three out of five format, they lost the third game 16-14. Middlebury lacked a coach and had difficulty retaining their concentration after the elating victory. Blocking broke down, and the back row struggled to pass Amherst's jump serves.

In the fourth game, the team decided to change the line-up, giving setter Scott Malin a chance to hit. Paul Marcus '94 replaced Malin at the setter position, and he admirably set up Malin for some ferocious kills. Nevertheless, the team started to falter and let the match slip away 3-1 with a 15-8 loss in the fourth game.

Ideally, the Panthers would have been undaunted by their Saturday loss and eager to set things straight the following day versus Williams. However, the purple Ephs played shameless mind games with their Panther rivals, first canceling the game and then abruptly re-scheduling early the next morning. Middlebury could only be described as unprepared.

Unfortunately, Captain Howson, sensing the end of the season, called for "a sowing of the team's oats" after learning of the initial cancellation, and there was much premature rejoicing on Saturday evening. In the morning, he was forced to scrape the team together. Missing Erman due to illness, Ludman because of premature midterm exam fear and Malin because he had apparently left the country, the team nervously headed to the UVM gym to face Williams.

Remarkably, when Middlebury actually took the floor they showed no signs of the night before. The offense cut Williams to pieces. Sutton and Greenwood dismantled the Williams blocking scheme, opening up the middle for Miller, who gracefully notched kill after kill. After winning the first game 15-4, Middlebury dropped the second game 16-14.

In the third match, both teams faltered. Sutton benched himself in order to allow first-year prospect Dave Huneryager the chance to hit. Huneryager blocked and hit strongly, but the Panthers lacked height in their frontline. Marcus (5'10"), Howson (5'10") and Bushell (5'9") faced off against Eph- monster Darrin Drummond, 6'5," and his huge front line.

Even so, the trio held their own, with Howson and Bushell each notching two kills and a couple of dinks, while drawing the out of sync Williams team under and into the net. Other than that, they were ably supported by the back row. With the score knotted at 14-14, Marcus blocked down a hit by the Williams' middle hitter to give Middlebury a one point lead. Williams then committed a hitting error to bring the Panthers victory.

Although the class of 1994 has played their last official game with the club, the prospects for Panther volleyball look bright, principally because of its young California-Massachusetts connection. Names like Erman, Miller, Huneryager, Ludman, Cochran and Black will be around for a couple more years, and their potential and talent should help Middlebury volleyball grow into the future.

Swimmers place 15th

(continued from page 24)

their lack of experience in collegiate competition affect them.

Fox, referring to the 800 yard freestyle relay, admitted that "we didn't really know what was going to happen. We just hoped to make the finals, and when we did, it made it that much more exciting."

The team's youth, now that they have had this experience, has clearly become an advantage As Fox stated, "the fact that we're all national qualifiers as first-years gives us great momentum going into next season."

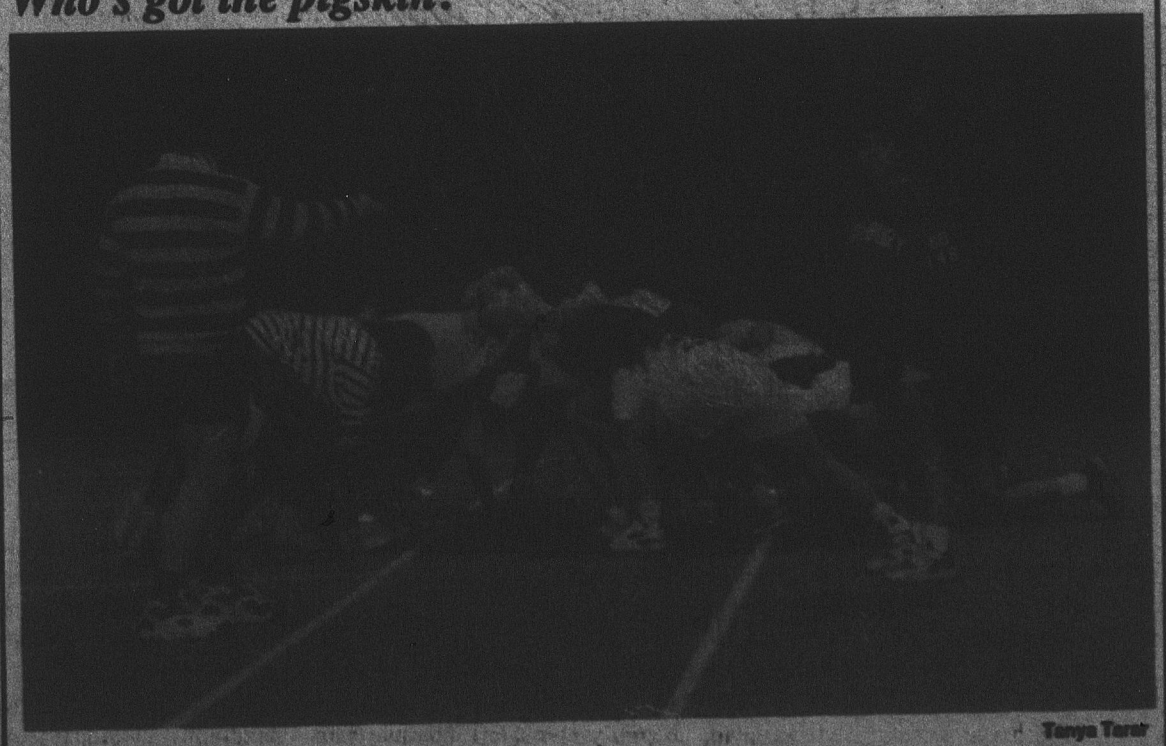
Claffey is already looking forward to next year. "For the rookies to be able to set this kind of a tone now," she said, "it's going to be good."

Reflecting on the season, and on her decision to come to Middlebury, Fox surely echoed the others' sentiments: "This is the best team I've ever been a part of. The amount of support from the rest of the team has been amazing."

Indeed, team support has always been a strength of the Middlebury squad. With these four women at only the beginning of their athletic careers, and a strong team around them, there is no telling how far they can go.

Summing up the weekend, Claffey said simply, "They made history." These four first-year women have perhaps made bigger waves than any other rookie class ever, and there can be no doubt that much more history is to be made in the coming years of Middlebury women's swimming.

Who's got the pigskin?



Tanya Taraz

The women's rugby team is one of many teams using the field house for early season practices before their first match , at home, on April 2 against The Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Maja Thaler challenges moguls

By Andrew Roebuck

Faster than a speeding ski, more powerful than a Snowcat, able to leap tall moguls in a single bound. Look, up in the sky, it's Eddie the Eagle Edwards, it's Jean Claude Killy, it's ... Super Maja! That's right, sports fans, this up close and personal look at Maja Thaler '94 will introduce you to one of Middlebury's finest student-athletes.

Loved by those fortunate enough to know her and envied by those who do not, Thaler has for the last four months been leading a double life behind our backs. Not only has she been attending her classes at Middlebury, taking pictures for *The Campus* and playing the piano, but she has also found time to travel to Killington Ski Resort three to four times a week to practice her mogul skiing in preparation for competitions in the area, at resorts like Mt. Snow, Sugarbush and Killington. To fully appreciate her ambition to conquer the bumps of competition, we must go back, way back, to the early years of our heroine.

At the age of two, on wooden skis in upstate New York, Thaler began her days on the slopes. Mom and Dad, having snowplowed their way into one another's hearts, raised their daughter in what can only be called a ski family.

Mom was a ski instructor, Dad a bumbling novice. Together, they emphasized to their children the value of skiing.

Every day after school, Thaler and her sister headed to Greek Peak, a medium sized slope in New York, to have fun and improve their technique. Eventually she found herself racing for the Greek Peak Ski Team, where she received her first taste of competition.

In the course of her 21 years, Thaler has journeyed to New Mexico, Montana, Idaho, Colorado, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia and good old Vermont to ski. Of this impressive list, Taos, in New Mexico, ranks as her favorite resort.

Thaler's latest ambition on skis is to succeed at competition mogul skiing. Training mostly on her own, often on campus with fellow ski genius Paul Bavier '94 on Pearson's hill, Thaler has steadily improved her abilities and increased her confidence; elements she's had to draw upon often as a newcomer in amateur competitions. Her goal is to win a pair of new skis by the end of the year. She would also like to stop taking out spectators and retaining fences in the future. Stating that she feels mentally constipated if she does not ski at least three to four times a week, she has traveled to Killington all winter in preparation for the competitions around Vermont.

Thaler's description of an actual competition sounds like fun, but intense and difficult as well. Judges score the skiers on turns through the moguls and performance on the two jumps, situated at the beginning and end of a run.

"I think the air is the most enjoyable part of the competition for me," said Thaler. She has also skied in a dual competition, where skiers race head-to-head with an opponent on an adjacent course. "The double competition can get intense. I don't know where to look: at the person next to me, or where I'm going."

Alex Grossman

Maja Thaler '94 is giving competitive mogul skiing a try this winter.

Thaler has steadily improved her abilities and increased her confidence; elements she's had to draw upon often as a newcomer in amateur competitions.

Thaler's performance in her first mogul competition at Killington a few weeks back proved more than a little exciting. On one of her runs, she lost control as the announcer was doing a play by play of her run for the spectators, causing her to crash into a retaining fence. After brushing the snow out of her long underwear, Thaler jumped to her feet undaunted. "I really ate snow on that fall," she said of the incident.

Thaler has registered for future competitions at Mt. Snow, Telluride and Sugarbush. So if you are interested in seeing a champion mogul skier, travel to one of these competitions after spring break and watch this graceful competitor.

The Extra Point

Neall Currie

I can certainly sympathize with senior Ben Kimball's reaction to the choice of an outdoor basketball court as our senior class gift; I had the same reaction he did to the marble posts which will accompany the court, with or without our names inscribed on them. I would have felt the same way he does if the chosen gift had been the proposed mug shots of the folks our commons are named after.

However, I'm ecstatic about the court that is to be built behind the renovated New Dorms, and I hope that I can persuade him that a place for students to enjoy sun and sport on what may become the only piece of even pavement on this campus is nothing but a positive addition to Middlebury.

I have to disagree with Kimball's claim that the court is a "monument to affluence." As there are certainly more public basketball goals in Watts than in Beverly Hills, I don't believe that the court is in any way a symbol of wealth. You find tennis courts at country clubs, not hoop courts.

I fail to see how the mere presence of a basketball court, let alone the use of it, narrows one's mind. Maybe basketball — any sport, for that matter — can't be considered an intellectual pursuit, but neither can snow sculpture. Still, people can get a good deal of pleasure out of both. I don't understand how leisure activities can be considered, as Kimball puts it, a waste of energy. Fun and friendly competition is the main reason most people participate in sports anyway; is all sport therefore a waste of time and energy? I doubt anyone could fashion a convincing argument that it is.

On the contrary, in an environment like Middlebury, where students are occupied trying to expand their minds cooped up indoors with 2000 people who look a little too much like each other, sports or other pastimes are a needed release of energy more than a waste of it. Gifts that support that activity, like the class of '93s warming cabin at the Snow Bowl and our basketball court, are simply welcome additions to the college's facilities.

Needs that are ever-changing are by nature impossible to meet; if you don't believe me, spend an afternoon with the ever-changing NCAA rulebook. I won't try to justify the senior class gift committees rhetoric, but I will say this: There are a great many members of the college community who will take pleasure in the new court. For proof, swing by Pepin Gym on almost any afternoon. You'll see both faculty, students and an occasional town resident sweating, running up and down the court, locked in fierce but friendly competition. At times there are games taking place on more than one court, even well into the spring, when it's actually nice to be outside. You can even find games on that terrible rubber surface in Fletcher Field House. I'm sure that all the people on the hardwood have "matters of real importance" they could be dealing with, just as I'm sure they all deserve a break from their work as well.

As far as I know, there is only one outdoor hoop on campus, and since it's hanging over the storage building next to the Bi-Cultural center, very few students know it's there. When the weather permits, quite a few students make their way to the Middlebury Recreation Park behind Campus Flowers, where there is a half-decent court. Other than those options, the only way to enjoy the sun while competing on the court is with a tennis racket in your hand. Tennis courts only fit four people at a time, while ten people can get in a game of hoops, in about the same amount of space and with much less equipment.

I think it would be impossible for the court to become a reflection of "our self-centeredness," simply because too many people will want to use it. I expect that the basketball court will be in such high demand that it will become a place that members of the college and the town will share. Of course, it would be better in a more open location than pigeonholed behind the New Dorms. For example, simply moving it to the front of the New Dorms, at the top of the hill overlooking Battell Beach would make it more visible, more central, and give it better drainage.

The students that dreamed up the basketball courts have done the college a service. My only problem with our senior class gift is that it comes too late for me to enjoy it myself.

Skiers earn fifth place

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two seconds ahead of the fifth place finisher. Waddell said, "there are some awfully tough skiers out there and I'm happy to show I can race against the best of them." Bryan also rebounded from his disappointing giant slalom race to place 11th at 1:42.11.

As a whole, the women's team skied exceptionally well. Bither finished in 10th at 1:40.78, with Rogers only nine-hundredths of a second behind her in 11th.

Coach Bart Bradford summarized their performance: "It was a very satisfying year for them and they are only going to improve for next season."

The Nordic team, however, was unable to rebound from its poor showing in the classical events during the freestyle races. Although Amy Hollingsworth '94 skied a good race, placing twelfth, the rest of the Panther women, Kristin Daly '94, Riikka Pakkala '95 and Casey Clifford '96 all finished in the twenties.

The first Middlebury man to cross the finish line was Caldwell. He placed 23rd with a time of 54:56. Ryder Clifford '94 and Jay Leach '97 were well off the mark. Coach Terry Aldrich best summed up the Nordic results: "They contributed just enough to help Middlebury to its best finish in some time. Unfortunately, the individual results were lacking. As a whole the team was flat, especially after the outstanding races at the [Middlebury] Carnival."

Overall, Middlebury's fifth place finish was the college's top result in eight years. What makes the success so remarkable is the fact that Middlebury, unlike most every other highly-ranked division I college, is unable to offer scholarships to its athletes.

Bradford and Aldrich both criticized the larger colleges for importing so many foreign skiers. Although Aldrich feels a few European racers are good, remarking that "they definitely raise the level of competition," he attacked schools like the University of New Mexico, which relies almost exclusively on Scandinavian skiers. This may help the college with their results, but it detracts from the overall advancement of American skiing by denying qualified Americans a chance to compete at the collegiate level.

As scholars and athletes, Middlebury's skiers should be applauded for their high level of competitiveness. Matt Waddell, Kirsten Rogers, Mia De Mattei and Andi Bither deserve special recognition, though, since their top-ten finishes garnered All-American Honors.

The Panther ski teams can now stow away their gear after a long but highly rewarding season. Like the rest of the college's winter athletes, they too can now dream of another successful season next year.

Maja Thaler challenges moguls, page 23

The Middlebury Campus
Sports

Ultimate Frisbee readies for spring, page 21

Thursday, March 17, 1994

First-year women swimmers astound at national meet

By Jon Johnstone

When the new recruits of the Middlebury women's swimming and diving team arrived in the fall, head coach Mary Ellen Claffey and her team members had high expectations, even though no one knew quite what to expect from the young, untried Panthers. And so no one was prepared for what was to become a truly remarkable season-long display by a group of talented first-year swimmers.

This past weekend, four of Middlebury's first-year sensations competed in the NCAA Division III Championships at Williams College. When the last Panther stepped out of the pool, Middlebury swimmers had powered the Panthers into the forefront of the national swimming scene. The meet was a fitting conclusion to a season that proves, even with the team's best-ever finish, that things will only get better for Middlebury women's swimming and diving.

When Nellie Fox, Margaret Rieley, Leslie Graham and Meredith Cox, all members of the class of '97, arrived at the sight of the competition this weekend, they faced the nerves that are to be expected at national championships. Yet, as the results show, their tension translated into great performances.

Fox, in placing eighth in the 100 yard backstroke, set a new school record and was named an NCAA First Team All-American. She also broke the school records in the 50 and 100 yard backstroke. Rieley achieved NCAA All-American Honorable Mention and a school record with her performance in the 200 yard butterfly.

All four Panthers then earned First Team All-American status for swimming to a phenomenal seventh nationally in the 800 yard freestyle relay. As if all these accolades weren't enough, all four swimmers were also awarded Honorable Mention in the 200 and 400 yard freestyle relays, as well as the 200 yard medley relay. The final result was an amazing 15th place national finish for team Middlebury.

Needless to say, Claffey could not have been happier with her swimmer's efforts: "Regardless of times and placements, it's just really nice to see them improving their times and having fun. They represented Middlebury College in a wonderful way."

The fact that first-year students comprised the entire squad at nationals was a possible disadvantage. In fact, no other school at the competition fielded so young a team. But the women did not let

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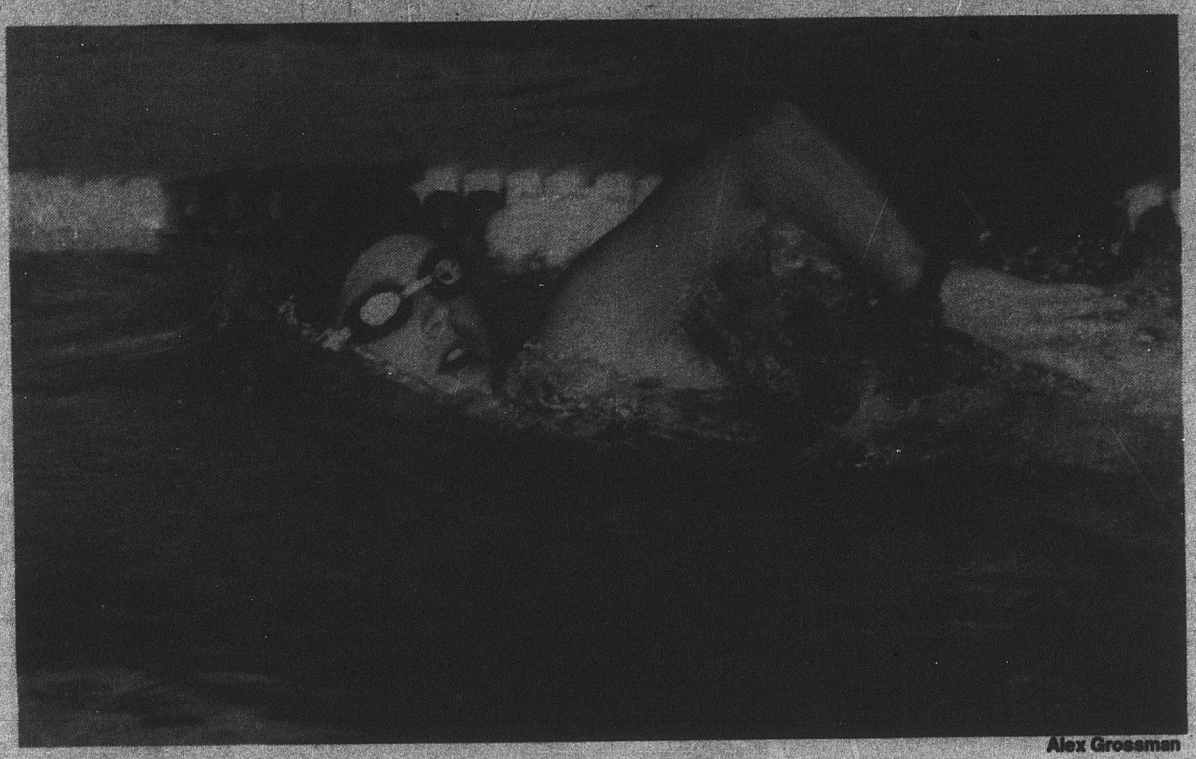

Alex Grossman

Four women's swim team members propelled Middlebury to 15th place at the NCAA championships.

Skiers earn fifth place at nationals

By Daniel Schatz

While most other Panther winter athletes were handing in their gear and dreaming about next season, Middlebury's skiers traveled to Sugarloaf, Maine, to compete in the NCAA Championships. After four days of grueling competition, Middlebury finished with an impressive team score of 449, earning them a fifth place overall finish. The University of Vermont won the title, its fourth in sixth years, with 688 points. Other participating eastern schools included the University of New Hampshire (eighth), Dartmouth College (10th), and Williams College (12th).

The first event held was the giant slalom. As they have all season, the Panther women excelled. Kirsten Rogers '96 placed second behind Utah's Christi Hager, with a time of 2:08.37. Fellow sophomore Mia De Mattei also had a superb race, finishing in third at 2:09.44. Rounding out the scoring was Andi Bither '97, whose time of 2:12.48 was good enough for fourteenth.

The alpine men, on the other hand, struggled in the giant slalom. The erratic performances that characterized most of the season reared their ugly heads once again and led to disappointing results. Although a pre-race favorite, Nate Bryan '94 was the top Panther skier in 24th place, over six seconds behind the winner from the University of Denver. Matt Waddell '94 and George Putnam '94 also couldn't find the rhythm and ended up in 30th and 36th places, respectively.

Tiffany Claflin

Kirsten Rogers '96 achieved All-American status at nationals.

The classical Nordic races were held the following day. Unfortunately, it appeared that the Middlebury contingent "peaked" at the Middlebury Carnival two weeks ago and couldn't repeat their stellar performances. Riikka Pakkala '95 was the top Middlebury finisher in the 5 km women's race in 18th position. Zach Caldwell '94 placed tops among the men in 29th.

The following event, the slalom races, once again highlighted Middlebury's alpine strengths. Waddell, in what he called "one of the best races" of his career, redeemed himself for his giant slalom performance by finishing fourth. His time of 1:38.42 left him a mere .27 out of third, but almost

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Men's volleyball club finishes year in style

By Matt Goebel

This weekend was one of dramatic ups and heartbreaking downs for the Middlebury men's volleyball team. Having labeled themselves as the greatest volleyball team ever to take the court for Middlebury, many club members had high aspirations for the season. However, plagued by snow storms, hangovers, injuries and general lack of intensity, the Panthers entered Saturday's home match versus Amherst with a 2-6 record.

Responding to a lackluster losing effort against Williams the weekend before, an energetic group of players took the floor for this season's second and final home game. It was Senior Day at Middlebury College, and after the tearful retirement of Kipp "Iron Spike" Sutton's number 12, the class of '94 played with an urgent intensity from the opening serve. Not to be outdone, the younger generation also raised their level of play. As a result, for three games, the battle with the Lord Jeffs was one to watch.

The first game was a struggle for the lead as Middlebury played themselves into the match. The solid setting of Scott Malin '95 and the nuclear hits of Sutton were unfortunately not enough to maintain the lead and the Panthers fell 15-12.

But four years of work and two weeks of grueling practices paid off in the second game, to be remembered as the greatest game ever played by the perennially struggling Panthers. The team was anchored by the consistent passing of Jeff Bushell '94, Michael Howson '94 and Patrick Miller '97. It was so consistent, in fact, that the Amherst defense was amazed at the crossing patterns that a confident Malin was able to call and set.

The work of the back row and the setter was complemented by the tremendous kills of Sutton, Dan Greenwood '94, J.J. Ludman '96 and Miller. Sutton was constantly faced with double and triple blocks, all of which he somehow managed to hit around, through and over. Miller deftly dropped fluffy dinks

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Track teams cruise into spring

By Rob Merrill

The Middlebury men's and women's track teams fly off to sunny California over spring break, but that doesn't mean they'll be spending their time sun-bathing. The trip promises to be equal parts pleasure and pain. Morning and afternoon practices are scheduled Monday through Thursday, and the weekends are mostly consumed by the team's opening two meets of the season at the University of California at Santa Barbara and at San Diego.

The chief asset of the men's roster is speed. Blazing the path will be a returning men's 4 x 100 relay team that last year qualified for the NCAAs. Co-captains Anthony Atkinson '94 and Branigan Sherman '94 will again team with Terence Bradford '96 and Nikola Tarashev '96 to earn points at most every meet.

According to head coach Martin Beatty, Tarashev, the reigning NESCAC champion in the 100 meters, will also "provide a lot of firepower" in that individual event. Beatty considers the pair of Tarashev and Bradford "two of the best sprinters in the conference."

The hurdle events are also well provided for on the Panther roster. First-year student Kris Clarke will compete in the 110 meter high hurdles and the 400 meter hurdles. Joining him will be Aaron Vanderlaan '96, who hopes to make a smooth transition from the straight 400 meter event.

At the middle and distance running events, the Panthers return a core of veteran talent that is nicely complemented by a few rookies. Adam Hersh '94 will run the 800 meters, along with Brendan Fitzsimons '95 and Greg Carolan '97. John Heller '95 will team with Graham Balch '97 to try and earn points in the 1500 meter event. Jun-

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